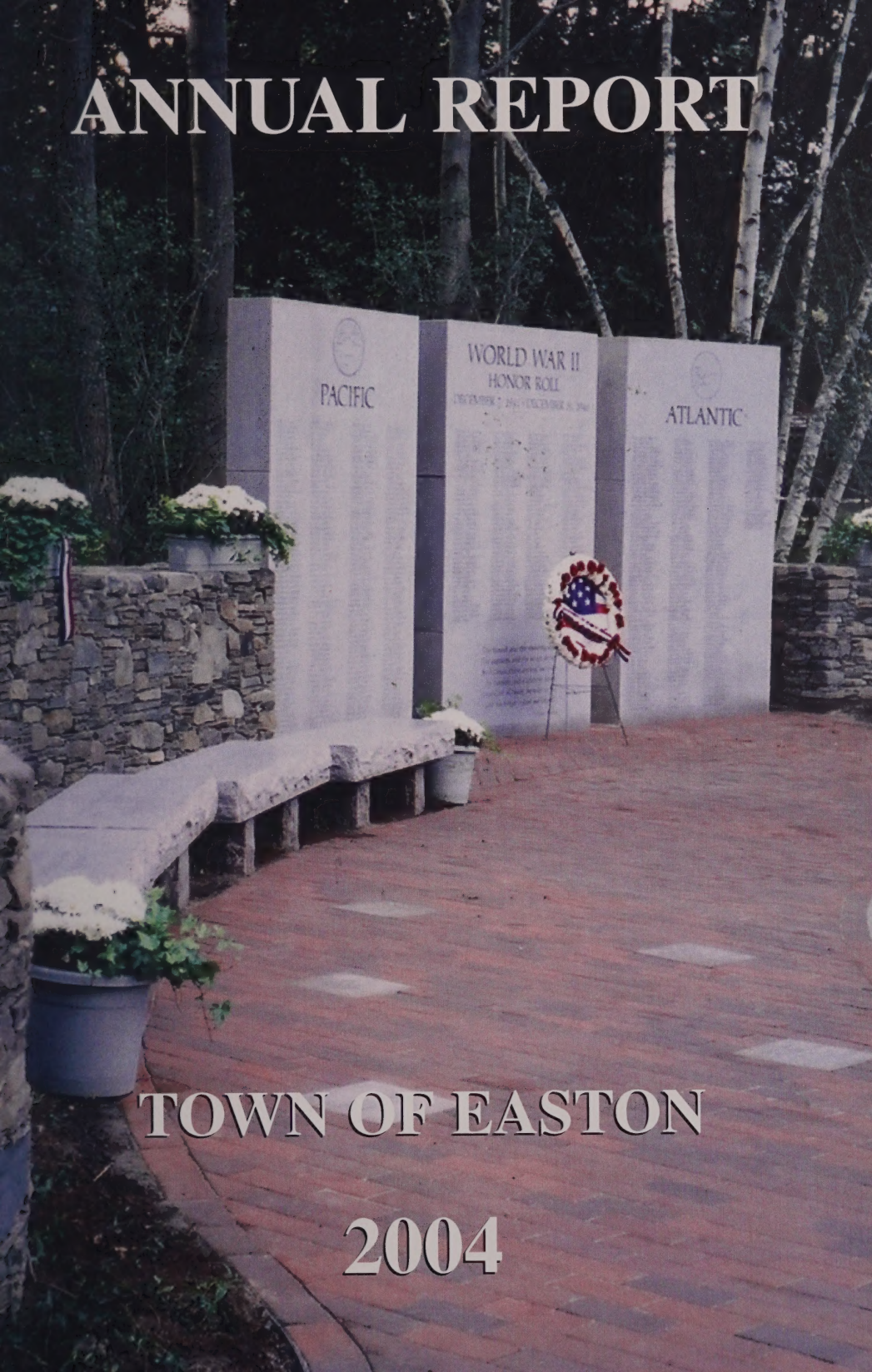
ANNUAL REPORT



TOWN OF EASTON

2004

About *Veterans Memorial Park* and the Meaning

The members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Private George F. Schindler Post 2547, completed the first phase of Veterans Memorial Park with the dedication of the World War II Memorial and Honor Roll on August 29, 2004. The memorial recognizes veterans from Easton who served during World War II. Eligibility for this memorial requires that the veteran entered service from Easton between the dates of December 7, 1941 thru December 31, 1946. There are presently 618 names on the three tablets. The approximate cost of the park reached $140,000.00 and was raised privately. The park was built by members of the VFW and many Easton citizens who freely gave of their time and equipment to help in this long overdue endeavor.

The basis for the design of Veterans Memorial Park is the circle, representing the unity of resolve expressed by our country and its allies in defending freedom. The circle is executed in a band of granite and in the circular stonewall. The wall is not continuous. It is interrupted to reflect the disruption in the lives of all who were involved in the war.

Three stones placed in the break in the wall represent the areas where the war was fought; land, sea, and air. Upon the stones are the names of those who served from the town of Easton. Central to the design is the flagpole, rising from a field of green and upon which our national symbol will fly, illuminated, 24 hours a day.

Behind the wall, hawthorn trees are planted representing the hawthorn hedges of France through which our troops struggled after D-Day. English ivy, Russian cypress and Chinese cotoneaster are added to complete the tribute to our major allies. All other plants are native to America.

VFW members are presently working on Phase II of the project, which is, collecting names of Korean War Veterans who entered the service from Easton between the dates of June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955. This dedication is tentatively scheduled for August of 2006.

Phase III, Veterans of the Vietnam War is tentatively scheduled to be dedicated in the summer of 2007.

Engraved bricks will continue to be sold well into the future to help support the park projects. Questions concerning the park and future dedications should be directed to the Commander of VFW Post 2547, Alvin Smart.

This report is dedicated to the many volunteers and employees, past and present, whose service to the community exemplifies dedication and pride

TOWN OF EASTON

Incorporated	1725
Area of Town	29.04 Square Miles
Population	22,299 (2000 Federal Census) 23,211 (2004 Town Census)
Form of Government	Town Meeting
Total Assessed Valuation as of January 1, 2004	$2,713,292,920
Town Meeting (The by-law regarding Annual Town Meeting was changed at the Special Town Meeting held on 6/4/001)	Third Monday in May
Town Election (The by-law regarding Annual Town Election was changed at the Special Town Meeting held on 10/30/00)	Fourth Tuesday in April

REPRESENTATIVES FOR EASTON

United States Senators

John F. Kerry — Edward M. Kennedy

Representative in Congress

Ninth Congressional District — Stephen F. Lynch, Boston

State Senators

Second Plymouth & Bristol District (Pcts. 1,2)	Robert S. Creedon, Jr., Brockton
Norfolk, Bristol & Plymouth District (Pcts. 3, 4, 5, 6)	Brian A. Joyce, Milton

Representatives in General Court

Eleventh Plymouth District (Pcts. 1, 2, 4, 5)	Geraldine Creedon, Brockton
Eighth Plymouth District (Pct. 6)	David L. Flynn, Bridgewater
Tenth Plymouth District (Pct. 3)	Christine E. Canavan, Brockton

Governor's Councillor

Second District (Pcts. 3, 4, 5, 6)	Kelly A. Timilty, Boston
Fourth District (Pcts. 1,2)	Christopher A. Iannella, Jr., Boston

TOWN OF EASTON ELECTED OFFICERS:

	TERM EXPIRES
MODERATOR	
Richard C. Dailey	2006
SELECTMEN	
Charles P. King	2007
Colleen A. Less	2007
John S. Haederle	2006
Colleen A. Corona	2006
Gerard S. Marsan	2005
ASSESSORS	
Wallace M. Fulcher	2007
Shaun Fitzgerald	2006
Gerald J. Noonan	2005
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	
Jane Pike Benton	2007
Dawn Marie Boynton	2007
Ellen Barlow Boyajian	2006
William P. Braun	2005
Caroline S. O'Neill	2005
BOARD OF HEALTH	
Robert J. Kane	2007
Roger M. Kligler	2006
Gilbert A. Heino	2005
HOUSING AUTHORITY	
Michael J. Malloy	2008
Barbara Dolloff-Grattan	2007
Sandra L. Conant	2006
June H. Brousseau (St Mmbr)	2005
FINANCE COMMITTEE	
Irwin M. Cohen	2006
Leonard J. Berkowitz	2006
Mark S. Carpentier	2006
Stephen A. Drown	2005
Robert L. Hicks	2005
Stuart R. Benton	2005
Richard Coose	2007
Patrick A. Goodman	2007
Donna A. Lopolito	2007
REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE	
Ralph Armstead	2006

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Town Administrator	Martha L. White
Animal Control Officer	John D. Melin
Animal Control Officer Asst.	Elizabeth J. DeRosa
Animal Inspector, Milk Inspector	John D. Melin
Assessor, Assistant	Anne M. Carney
Board of Health Director	Wade D. Saucier
Building Inspector, Zoning Enforcement, ADA Coordinator	D. Mark Trivett
Council on Aging Director	Dolores M. Kent
DPW Director	Wayne P. Southworth
Fire Chief	Thomas F. Stone
Library Executive Director	Annalee M. Bundy
Moderator, Deputy	John A. Keach, Jr.
Moderator, Deputy	John F. Creedon
Moderator, Deputy	Carla A. Goodwin
Moderator, Deputy	Michael G. Sites
Plumbing & Gas Inspector	Robert Govey
Plumbing & Gas Inspector, Asst.	Barton R. Carlson
Police Chief	Thomas F. Kominsky
School Superintendent	William J. Simmons, Ed.D., J.D.
School Superintendent, Adm. Asst.	Michael Green, Ed. D.
School, Director of Curriculum	Dr. Nancy Sullivan
Town Accountant	Wendy V. Nightingale
Town Clerk	Janet Andrus Linehan
Town Clerk Emeritus	Esther C. Anderson
Town Clerk, Assistant	Marie A. Graca
Town Counsel	Brackett & Lucas
Town Planner	Marc R. Rousseau
Treasurer and Collector	John L. Nunes
Treasurer and Collector, Asst.	Julie A. Bertram
Veterans Agent	Stephen F. Nolan, III
Water Division Superintendent	John J. Marsh
Wiring Inspector	Kevin Greiner
Wiring Inspector, Asst.	John F. Amorim

APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

(In Alphabetical Order) TERM EXP.

BOARD OF APPEALS

Walter Mirrione	2009
Thomas A. Pursley	2008
August Gangi	2007
Steven H. Johnson	2006
John Tupper	2005
Christopher J. Pike, Alternate	2005
Fred Clark, Jr., Alternate	2006

CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

John Fresh, Jr.	2007
Wayne P. Southworth	2006
William D. Hardin	2005

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Michael J. Boyle	2007
Sharyn Katz	2005
Charles A. Morgan	2005
Bruce Baker	2004
Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant	
Christine Santoro, Planning & Zoning Board	
Mark Carpentier, Finance Committee	

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Melanie DeWare	2007
John D. Melin	2006
John R. Howard	2005

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

Patricia F. Hunt	2007
James D. Mullen, Jr.	2006
Michael J. Boyle	2005
Avery Lee Williams	2005
John E. Grant, Conservation Commission	
Frank Spillane, Recreation Commission	
Christopher J. Kone, Planning & Zoning Board	
Edmund C. Hands, Historical Commission	
Michael Malloy, Housing Authority	

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Patricia E. Somers	2007
Barry DunKley	2007
John E. Grant	2006
Patricia A. Haederle	2006
Michael G. Sites	2005
Jonathan Chace, Associate Member	

CONSTABLES

William Griffiths	2007
Jerold Loomis	2007
Harold L. March	2007
John Melin	2007
Phillip E. White	2007
Desmond Yu-Wai Chow	2007

CONSTABLES (Cont'd)

Peter M. Buckley	2007
Jerome Zeidman	2007
Brent Peterson	2006
William E. Scharnick	2006
James A. Carey	2005
Scott A. Crelease	2005
John Hurley	2005
Margaret Carey	2005
Michael G. Bombas	2005
George A. Mather	2005
Scott Douglas	2005
David Wood	2005
Robert Bishop	2005

COUNCIL ON AGING

Nicolina Previti	2007
Phyllis Kiessling	2007
Marie Healey	2006
Ethel Pomerleau	2006
Francis H. Spillane	2005
Elizabeth Verity	2005
Carl Palm	2005
Delores M. Kent, Director	

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Judy Halperin	2006
Wanda Azevedo	2006
Marion Wingfield	2006
Susan Chapman	2006
Greg Maniero	2006
Anne-Marie Burke	2006
Lauri Silva Costa	2006
Sharyn Katz	2005
Pauline Phinney	2005
David Olson	2005
Nancy Arns	2005

FAIR HOUSING COMMITTEE

Dan Burke	2007
Donna Bonia	2007
Kevin McIntyre	2006
Barbara Dolloff-Grattan	2006
Nicolina Previti	2006
Calvin Harris	2006
James F. Breton	2005

FENCE VIEWERS

John A. Keach, Jr.
Robert L. Hicks
Frank Meninno

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Paul E. Bloom	2007
Catherine Adler	2007
Edmund C. Hands	2006
Karen Cacciapuoti	2006
John Ventresco	2006
Greg Galer	2005
Melanie-Jane Deware	2005
Frank T. Meninno, Associate Member	
Larry Mowatt, Associate Member	

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Margaret Ryan	2007
Donna Bonia	2006
Diane Shannon	2006
Dan Burke	2007
Cheryl Brightman	2005

HUMAN RESOURCES BOARD

Elyese Cicchetti
Stephen Delamere
Anne-Marie Orfori-Acquaah
Donald Shanbar
Carolyn Carpentier

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY

Richard L. Freitas	2005
Kenneth Carlson	2006
Debra Harding	2006

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathleen E. Boyle (Town)	2007
Hazel L. Varella (Town)	2007
William M. Ames (Corp)	2007
Gloria J. Stafford (Town)	2006
Kevin Paicos (Town)	2006
Alice B. McCarthy (Town)	2005
James S. Thomas (Corp)	2005
Gerard S. Marsan (Corp)	2005
Donna P. Richman (Corp)	2005
Annalee M. Bundy, Executive Director	

MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Wallace Fulcher	2007
Ralph Vatalaro	2007
Robert E. Langway, Jr.	2006
Henry P. Narsasian	2005
Kenneth Carlson	2005
Dawn Boynton, School Rep	
Marc Brockman, School Rep	
Jane Pike Benton, School Rep Alternate	
Dr. Michael Green, School Supt Rep, Ex-Officio	
Wayne Southworth, DPW Director, Ex-Officio	

OLD COLONY ELDER SERVICES

Elizabeth Verity, Board of Directors
Nicolina Previti, Board of Directors Alternate

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL (OCPC)

Jeanmarie Kent Joyce, Representative
Stephen Donahue, Delegate Alternate

OCPC AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Phyllis Kiessling, Delegate
Marie Healey, Alternate

OCPC TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Wayne P. Southworth, Representative

PERMANENT LANDFILL COMMITTEE

David W. Brown	2007
James J. Conceison	2007
Richard J. Harb	2006
Gil A. Heino	2006
Todd M. Heino	2005

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

Alan Weeks	2009
Christine Santoro	2008
Christopher J. Kone	2007
Walter H. Johnson	2006
Colin W. Gillis	2005
Joseph McPharland, Alternate	2006

RECREATION COMMISSION

David Lang	2007
Michael J. McDonald	2007
Charles H. Hammond	2006
Frank Spillane	2006
John MacDonald (Deceased 12/04)	2005
Kathleen A. Endriunas	2005

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Jean H. Cote	2007
Kent M. Keith	2006
Jean M. Kent	2005
Janet Andrus Linehan, Clerk	

SCHOOL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Marc R. Brockman	2006
Lennart K. Altieri	
Dawn Marie Boynton	
Judith E. Josephs	
Henry P. Narsasian	4/14/2006
Wallace Fulcher	4/14/2006
Robert L. Hicks, Finance Committee	

VETERANS' GRAVES OFFICER

John D. Melin	2008

VETERANS AND MEMORIAL DAY PARADE COMMITTEE
Alvin Smart, Commander VFW
Louis G. Silva
John Flynn
Ernest R. Camara
Daniel B. Amorim
Paul H. Tanner

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT STUDY COMMITTEE
Howard Margulies
Daniel M. Crane
Ronald Lawson
Kenneth Carlson
John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent
Mark Bartlett, Planning & Zoning Board
Robert J. Kane, Board of Health

WATER RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Shirley Tufts	2007
Eugene Packer	2006
James D. Mullen, Jr.	2005

Wayne P. Southworth, Local Water Resources Management Officer
John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent

WORLD WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
John F. Hurley, Chair
Chairman, Board of Selectmen
Chairman, School Committee
Commander, George F. Schindler Post VFW
Commander, George S. Shepard Post, A.L.
John D. Melin
Robert J. McLaughlin

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2004 was a year of transition for the Board of Selectmen. Long-time member Patricia Webster resigned shortly before the start of the New Year. Jeffrey Tufts and Carla Goodwin also left office after many years of service to the Board and the community. The Town owes a debt of gratitude to all three for their tireless service.

In April, the Board welcomed new members, Colleen Less and Charles King, who brought a fresh perspective and new talent to the position of selectman.

Over the last year, the Board has been faced with many pressing issues, not least among them the town's ongoing financial concerns. The increasing cost of providing quality services to the residents of the Town of Easton has made it difficult to maintain the appropriate levels of service. Ongoing cuts in staffing in virtually all departments and at all levels over the last several years, coupled with an increased demand for services due to population growth, has placed us in an untenable position. Without increased revenues, cuts to vital services will continue even as neighboring communities enhance their existing service levels to meet the ever demanding needs of modern society. As a result, the Board voted unanimously to place an operational override before the voters in the hopes of addressing some of the town's financial needs.

The town continues to make progress on the Foundry Street/Five Corners project and developers working along that corridor, at the town's request, have begun to make financial and land contributions to facilitate improvements in congestion and traffic flow.

In September, the relatively new Board of Selectmen adopted both a Statement of Ethics and a Statement of Values. Given the ever-changing make up of the Board of Selectmen, these statements will be discussed and reaffirmed on an annual basis.

In November, the Wastewater Management Study Committee issued its final report to the Selectmen. The final report came after years of hard work and study by Committee members who addressed a myriad of complex issues in order to accomplish their charge. The Board is grateful for the service of these talented and dedicated individuals. It is the hope of the Selectmen that the recommendations of that committee be implemented so as to address our ongoing wastewater management issues in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

The Town also began work on an Affordable Housing Plan. The Commonwealth requires that communities dedicate 10% of its housing to affordable housing stock. The implementation of an Affordable Housing Plan will provide the framework within which the Town can work towards achieving this goal, while simultaneously allowing the Town to exercise more controls over the acceptance of Affordable Housing developments.
A note of appreciation is in order for the dedication of Easton's town employees, who work very hard to meet the needs of its residents on a day-to-day basis.

The Board would also like to express its thanks to the many talented individuals who volunteer hours to serve the needs of the community. Easton is a better place as a result of the community-minded spirit of its residents.

This is an important time for Easton as a community. We have grown tremendously over the last ten years, yet we have been unable to make changes to address that population growth in terms of maintaining service levels. Our town departments continue to be staffed at the same staffing levels as the late 1980s. The residents will be asked to participate in several significant decisions in 2005—decisions which will lay the foundation for the type of community we would like to be; a community in which the town is able to meet the needs of the residents at all levels, or a community in which poorly maintained buildings, understaffed departments and failing infrastructure are the norm.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen A. Corona, Chairwoman

John S. Haederle, Clerk

Gerard S. Marsan

Colleen A. Less

Charles P. King

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Fiscal year 2005 was the first year of implementation of a new ruling by the Department of Revenue that mandated updating assessed values anytime the market changed to such an extent that ratios of assessed values to selling prices were either above or below statutory guidelines. Massachusetts General Laws state that the median assessment ratio must be between 90 and 110 % of fair market value and the coefficient of dispersion (a statistic that measures the uniformity of assessments) must be less than 10%. Selling prices on residential properties rose more than 10 % during 2003 and that mandated increases in assessed values. Selling prices of residential property rose while sales of commercial/industrial properties remained relatively flat. In addition, most of the new construction was within the residential sector. As a result, a higher percentage of taxes was raised in the residential class. Easton now has more than 90% of its taxable value in residential properties. Residential taxes increased due to the shift to residential, the allowable 2 ½% levy growth and the debt service payments on the school renovations. The Town has a tax levy limit under Prop 2 ½ that increases every year. This levy limit is a set number and the Town can raise that amount of money whether values increase or decrease. If values increase the tax rate is lower, if values decrease the tax rate will be higher but the same amount of money will be raised. Taxes increase because town meeting appropriates more money.

The Department of Revenue has also stated that it wants a cyclical re-inspection program maintained by the assessing department. This means that a number of properties will be inspected each year to ensure that the property record cards are as accurate as possible. The Board encourages all taxpayers to check their property record card for accuracy. This can done by viewing property on the computer located in the assessors' office.

The Board of Assessors is responsible for the efficient and uniform administration of local tax laws regarding real estate and personal property valuation. The assessors value all property and maintain the assessment rolls for tax billing. Exemptions for elderly, blind and disabled veterans are processed through this office. Inquiries on motor vehicle excise bills are answered by this office and abatements are processed by this department. Overvaluation applications on real and personal property are reviewed and decided at the local level by the Board of Assessors and defended by the Board when an appeal goes to the Appellate Tax Board. The Community Preservation Act Surcharge is assessed through this office and the Board makes decisions on exemptions to this surcharge. Property taxes and motor vehicle excise taxes account for sixty two per cent of the Town's revenue which is the same percentage as last year. The office maintains current maps for assessment purposes and produces abutters' lists for public hearings by other Town departments. The Board prepares information for the Board of Selectmen regarding the public hearing on classification to decide whether to shift tax burdens amongst the various classes of property. The Board is responsible for submitting the recapitulation sheet to the Department of Revenue for setting the tax rate.

A SUMMARY OF THE RECAPITULATION SHEET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005 IS AS FOLLOWS:

Assessed Value of Real Estate	$ 2,681,954,400.00
Assessed Value of Personal Property	31,338,520.00
Total Assessed Value of Real & Personal Property	$ 2,713,292,920.00

EXPENDITURES:

Appropriations	$	50,961,982.86
Cherry Sheet Offsets & Misc.Charges		58,925.15
State & County Charges		661,077.00
Overlay Account		299,168.24
Total Expenditures	$	51,981,153.25

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS:

State Receipts	$	11,035,544.00
Local Receipts		5,010,077.00
Enterprise Funds		2,768,775.00
Free Cash/Other Available Funds		3,328,820.93
Community Preservation Funds		832,835.00
Total Receipts & Available Funds	$	22,976,051.93

NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION $ 29,005,101.32

Tax Rate = 29,005,101.32 / 2,713,292,920 x 1000 = $10.69

The assessment date for fiscal year 2005 values was January 1, 2004. The Town now has 5,386 single-family homes, 1180 condominiums, 161 two-family homes and 21 three-family homes.

Significant Dates for Taxpayers and Citizens regarding the Assessors' Office:

June30th — Property Tax Assessment Date. The Town adopted Chapter 653 of the Ma. General Laws at the Special Town Meeting in January, 2004. This changed the date from January 1st to June 30th for fiscal year 2005.

February 1st — Payment of third quarterly tax bill and deadline for accepting appeals. The only time taxpayers can appeal assessments due to overvaluation or disproportionate assessment is from the time the third actual bill is mailed in December through February 1st (or the next work day if February 1st falls on a weekend.)

March 1st — Date for submission of Forms of List. This is a listing of all business personal property and must be filed every year by anyone doing business in Town.

March — Exemption applications for elderly (over 70), blind persons, and disabled veterans with a rating from the VA, can be accepted up to three months from the time the actual tax bill is mailed the previous December. Applications are mailed in August to anyone currently qualifying. Community Preservation Act exemptions may be submitted anytime after March 1st and must be accompanied by the income tax filing from the previous year. Contact the office for exemption forms.

May 1st — Payment of fourth quarterly tax bill.

August 1st — Payment of the 1st preliminary tax bill. Preliminary bills are based on at least one quarter of the taxes from the previous fiscal year. If significant changes have taken place such as

subdivision of land or new construction taxes will be estimated accordingly. New construction will be based on whatever is complete on the previous June 30th.

November 1st — Payment of the 2nd preliminary tax bill.

December — Setting of the tax rate and mailing of the third quarterly bill that is the actual tax bill for the current fiscal year.

Telephone Number for questions or information: 508-230-0520

GERALD J. NOONAN, CHAIRMAN
SHAUN FITZGERALD VICE-CHAIRMAN
WALLY FULCHER CLERK

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

As every year is, 2004 was another busy year for the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee met 33 times to address all financial transactions that came before Town Meeting, while focusing on budgetary matters with all Town department heads. The fiscal condition of the Town, coupled with the State's fiscal constraints, continues to cripple the Town of Easton's budgets. At the Annual Town meeting in 2004, the citizens voted to increase the Finance Committees duties.

The Finance Committee started conducting "Foundation" meetings with key departments. The objective of these meetings were to discuss what services the department offers, how these services compare to similar Towns, what the manpower levels have been over the last five years and these departments think they can service the citizens better. We felt this provide us with better tools to examine the budgets.

Once again, the preparation of the Town's budget was delayed and handed to the Finance committee just weeks before the annual town meeting. The Finance Committee recommended that the Annual Town meeting be moved to June so that the Committee could adequately review the budget and present a full and complete budget analysis to Town Meeting. This request was denied. The Finance committee worked late in the nights to ensure that we completed our task. As we have done in prior years, the Finance Committee met with ALL department heads, analyzed ALL of the town's departmental budgets, and suggested changes and/or reductions to many budgets while approving other budgets without significant changes. At the Annual Town meeting, we made a detailed presentation to the citizens and presented reductions in the budget for them to consider. All enterprise, revolving and debt accounts were analyzed in detail by the Finance Committee.

The Annual Town meeting requested that the Finance Committee present options for the next budget cycle as it relates to Elected Officials Stipends and Health Insurance. Currently there are several boards that are elected and receive nominal stipends. Board members who receive the stipends during the year are automatically eligible for Town-subsidized Health Insurance and Pension benefits. The Finance Committee met a number of times in 2003 and 2004 with these elected boards to help prepare the options that we presented at the 2004 Annual Town Meeting. The Town meeting chose to continue these benefits to certain elected officials.

During the year, the Committee worked on a number of initiatives. First we commissioned and oversaw an audit of the Healthcare invoices the town pays. The objective was to determine if the Town was paying benefits for individuals that were not qualified. The audit presented to the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator revealed significant Internal Control weaknesses that the Town Administrator was charged to clean up. Fortunately the audit revealed that all individuals were qualified for the benefit. Next, the Finance Committee conducted a legal analysis, the objective was to determine if the Town should continue to use outside counsel or hire an employee to take over the responsibilities. The analysis, presented to the Board of Selectmen, showed that the Town should continue to use outside counsel as it was determined that level of service would be greater and the cost lower. The Finance Committee did make some recommendations related to cost control when dealing with outside counsel. The Third initiative that the Finance Committee undertook was the development of an "Audit Committee". This Committee would be independent from Town's Management and would be responsible for recommending the independent auditors, setting scope of work and with the management of the external auditors. This concept was presented to the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen who approved the creation of such a committee. A Town By-Law will be presented at the 2005 Annual Town Meeting. The Finance committee reviewed the annual financial statements, noting significant changes from the prior year's presentation.

Due to the extremely low levels of revenues in the Town, the Finance Committee played pivotal roles in the review and recommendation of the overrides (1) for the renovations to the High School and Junior High School, which the State is reimbursing approximately 67% and (2) an operational override for the 2006 budget.

The Finance committee participates in the Budget Task Sub Committee with The Board of Selectmen, School Committee and Town Administrator, working on building consensus in developing the budgets each year.

The Finance Committed requested that the budgets be prepared in a more comprehensive and useful format. The Committee feels a more informative break out is necessary other than two very large budgets titled "Employee Benefits and Insurance" and "Other General Government" Furthermore, we have requested since 2000 that the Employee Benefits appear in each departmental budgets not consolidated in one large budget account. This will provide the readers a better accounting and understanding of what it takes to run a department.

The Finance Committee saw two long term members not seek reelection this year; we must thank these two members who have served the Town of Easton in various capacities for fifty (50) years each. We thank Dave Brown and John Kent for their years of service. The Committee's Secretary resigned after serving almost four years, we thank Marie Graca for her service.

The committee continues to meet throughout the year to review department budgets and address issues for the Town as they arise. In addition, the Committee provided representation on the Capital Planning Committee, School Planning Committee, and Municipal Building Committee for the 2004 year.

Our thanks and appreciation is extended to our Committee Secretary, Karen Gallo for her dedication and commitment to our Board.

Finally, the Committee thanks all of the Town Departments for meeting with us in the past year and look forward to continuing this mutually respectful partnership.

Respectively Submitted,

Stuart R. Benton, CPA – Chairman
Leonard J. Berkowitz
Mark Carpentier – Vice Chairman
Irwin Cohen
Richard Coose
Stephen Drown
Patrick Goodman
Robert Hicks
Donna Abelli Lopolito, CPA - Clerk

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

During 2004, the Easton Public Schools continued to address new responsibilities and demands, while focusing on short and long-range plans to meet increased programmatic, space and school renovation concerns. The additional financial support received from the citizens of Easton that allows the middle school building project to move forward was greatly appreciated, and supports school system and community efforts to appropriately plan for current and future generations of Easton students.

At the same time, the collaboration between the School Committee, staff, parents and the community-at-large again provided the foundation for a comprehensive and cohesive approach to the education of the students of Easton.

As this report indicates, the Easton Public Schools evidenced significant accomplishments and changes during the past year. In addition to the administrative, statutory and fiscal impacts that influenced the day-to-day operation of the school system, a number of events, achievements, and issues are indicative of the active and productive learning that takes place in the schools. This summary touches upon some of the details that made up the lives of the young people and adults of Easton during the past year.

STAFF CHANGES

A number of staff changes were experienced by the school system during the 2004 school year. Retirements included Junior High School Assistant Principal Robert Kass, Athletic Director James Mitchell, Director of Special Services Steven Seery, Parkview Principal Dr. Mary Ellen Toscano, Secondary Mathematics Department Chair Ed Weiner, Head Nurse Judy Baptiste, Junior High Physical Education teacher Brad Morse, Elementary Art teacher Margaret Moran, Elementary teachers Jennifer Eccleston, Dennis Bray and Lorna Paone, Olmsted School Secretary Muriel Randall, Richardson School Secretary Pamela Terra, and SPED Driver/Custodian Craig Davey.

Staff moving to other professional opportunities included Secondary teachers Season Walrath, Phyllis Knudson, Rachel Isveck, Blair Ames, and Karen Fisher, SPED Learning Specialist Heather Carbone, School Nurse Ann Fisher, Elementary teacher Adrianne Campbell, and Center School principal Jennella Porter. In addition, staff and students were very saddened by the loss of Robert Williams, Moreau Hall Custodian.

The Easton schools and the Town of Easton will certainly miss the professionalism, love of children and dedication shown by those staff members who have left the school system during this period of change and transition.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The class of 2004 was highly successful in reaching its goals. Approximately ninety-two percent enrolled in four-year colleges, junior colleges, community colleges, nursing schools or technical institutes. Eight percent elected to join the world of work and/or the military.

The class of 2004 also set a new record for accruing the largest financial aid total to date. The individual awards were a combination of collegiate, federal, state and local funds. The citizens of Easton continued their generosity by contributing to the many scholarships raised within the community.

While students continued to achieve well above national levels in the SATs, Advanced Placement test scores in English Literature and Composition, United States History, and Calculus indicated that approximately seventy percent of those taking the tests earned scores of 3 or above, thus entitling them to

college credit. A number of high school students earned Commended Student status from the National Merit Scholarship competition.

Easton students continued to take advantage of dual enrollment opportunities with area colleges, while others were involved in coursework at Stonehill College for both high school and college credit. The Business and Technology Department's Shadow Program, improving career education, had high school students shadow local employers for a day in over thirty area companies to learn about a previously selected occupation. Students were also involved in Career Speaker Day, in which speakers from a myriad of careers and occupations volunteered to meet with students, both in their classes and individually.

The high school chapter of Future Business Leaders of America received recognition by the state organization, with Adam Zeidman selected as the Massachusetts F.B.L.A. Treasurer and Brian Teague selected as the State Parliamentarian. At the State level competition, Marissa Athanasiou placed first in Business English and Stephanie Arias placed first in Entrepreneurship. Second place winners included Erika Rydberg in Business Communication, Ji-Hye Ham in Business English, Mariesa Searles in Business Math, Jonathan Monnin in Economics, and Mike Ramirez in Marketing, while third place winners included Meaghan Toomey in Business Law, Tyler Gagnon in Computer Applications, and Alex Kravitz in Economics.

High school and junior high school students were involved in three days of intensive training in conflict resolution and peer mediation strategies. The program is in its twelfth year and has proven to be a very effective means of resolving peer issues and conflicts. Also, a number of Oliver Ames High School students participated in the American Legion Boys State that was held at Stonehill College in June. Easton students who were elected to leadership positions included Jesse Victor, Zachary Langway, Mark Fisher, Jonathan Monnin, Matthew Zussman, Steven Marsh, and Keith Anderson.

At the junior high school, Peer Assistant Leaders continued to provide assistance for students new to the building. In addition to providing information to grade 6 students at the Olmsted and Richardson schools, students assisted at the afternoon and evening functions held at the junior high school. The National Junior Honor Society welcomed new members into the Society and undertook a number of community service projects, including the NRT Harvest Fair, the Lions Club Auction and tutoring students after school.

An outgrowth of this involvement at the junior high school is the student organization, HANDS, through which Easton students dedicated themselves to promoting tolerance and respect for others, and focused on ways to help achieve a non-discriminatory society. One such way was the continuation of the Facing History and Ourselves program, an interdisciplinary focus of study between the Social Studies and Technology Departments. Also at the junior high school, the guidance staff worked closely with HUGS II in coordinating after-school programs that included enrichment as well as entertainment for junior high school students. Programs offered included sports activities, and a homework club, Spanish club, videography club and computer club.

The Art Department continued to oversee many contests so that Easton students had an opportunity to compete in a variety of arenas. A number of secondary students were selected to participate in the state wide Boston Globe Art Awards competition, including Sean Doherty and Octavio Perestrelo of the high school. Junior high students also participated in the SMARTS Middle School Art Show, while student Dooha Kang won the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest. Elementary students had their art work recognized through the Easton Water Department Poster Contest and the Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Student work was also exhibited at many locations throughout the year, including the high school's alumni art gallery, the art hallway in the high school, the Central Administration office, the "Welcome Mat" mural in the high school, the Fuller Art Museum, the Easton Marketplace, the Brockton Art Center, the Attleboro Art Museum, the Transportation Building in Boston, Stonehill College, and the Wang Center.

In Music, the Oliver Ames High School Marching Band and Color Guard, under the direction of Band Director Joseph Carucci, won a Gold Medal and 4th place in Competition at the NESBA Finals. They also received the "Spirit of NESBA Award" for their enthusiasm and energy.

Students in the OAHS Show Choir and Pit Band participated in the 20th Anniversary Baystate Show Choir Festival at Oliver Ames High School. The school hosted more than 350 students from across the state, Canada and Connecticut during the two-day festival.

The Concert Choir and Marching Band performed at the Easton Lions Club Winter Festival, while students selected to participate in the Southeast District Music Festival included Lauren Dewey, John Hamilton, Zachary Langway, Deborah Loomis, Christopher Maggio, Matthew Wanders and Stephen Twirga for Chorus, and Liz Freitas, Andrew Plante and Ian Fredericks for Orchestra.

The Show Choir entered the Mill City Festival in Lowell and placed first in the Competition, receiving a Gold Medal, and the Pit Band also received a Gold Medal for their performance. Gold medals were also received by both the Show Choir and the Pit Band at the Show Choir Festival in Waltham and the Central Mass Show Choir Festival, while the Jazz Ensemble earned a Silver Medal at the Norwood Jazz Festival.

At the junior high school level, twenty-seven students auditioned for the Southeast District Music Festival, with ten students being accepted into the festival in orchestra, band and chorus. Also, each junior high ensemble (Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Jazz Band, and Show Choir) earned either a Gold or Silver rating at the annual Great East Festival in Springfield.

The 2004 OAHS musical production of "Bye Bye Birdie," directed by Mrs. Dalrymple, was an outstanding production and excellent learning experience for the students in the cast and the numerous staff and parents who participated. A number of students also received individual recognition throughout the year for their musical talent. Among the many students so honored were Ian Fredericks, Zachary Langway, Deborah Loomis and Stephen Twiraga, chosen for the All-State Chorus, and Liz Freitas, John Hamilton and Marisa Keegan, who participated in the SEMSBA Music Festival in Hingham.

At the elementary level, concerts were held in January and May at the Olmsted/Richardson schools, and featured the combined Olmsted and Richardson fifth grade chorus, sixth grade chorus, orchestra, chamber orchestra, jazz band, show choir and the concert band. Also in May, Olmsted and Richardson students, under the direction of Carol Allen, presented "The Granny Awards," with over one hundred students participating in the program. In the three primary schools, students participated in musical tributes on Veterans Day and Memorial Day, and individual schools held many end-of-the-year musical productions with outstanding student participation and individual and group performances.

In Social Studies, students were involved in Community Service, Student Government Day, the Academic Bowl Team, the Mock Trial program, the Facing History and Ourselves program at grade 9, National History Day at grade 8, the two day Hockomock Senate, the Lions Club Speech Competition, the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest, school Geography Bees, the Easton Film Festival, and the Pvt. George F. Schindler Post of the VFW Voice of Democracy Contest. In the Easton Film Festival competition, with a project theme focusing on "conscience," Jesse Finnegan won first prize in the fiction category while Greg Brockman, Katie Covett, Jacob Hopkins and Lauren Henry placed third.

In the Foreign Language Department, students in the exchange program were unable to travel abroad in 2004 because of the impact of continuing terrorist threats. Travel plans abroad for the following year will depend on security and safety factors for all involved. Not having this part of the program, with trip opportunities to Spain and/or France, was a real loss for the students and the program itself. However, students continued to achieve in the various languages, with students who were recognized through the National Latin exam including Joe Davis, Jesse Victor, Dennis Bartlett, Evan Stone, Elana Maibor, Justin LeFebre, and Colleen Dalton-Petilla. Also, three graduating seniors were presented outstanding achievement awards, including Dennis Bartlett in Latin, Michael Battista in French, and Megan Weeks in Spanish.

Students in Family and Consumer Sciences again baked cookies for the Easton Firefighters annual children's party, quilted baby quilts for donation to needy children and the HUGS organization, donated

hand sewn cloth dolls to the Boston Medical Center pediatric ward as part of the "Annual Doll Project" sponsored by the hospital, cooked holiday meals for elderly citizens involved with the Council of Aging, prepared refreshments for the Science Fair, altered prom gowns, made costumes for school plays, and sponsored outdoor barbecues for the three junior high school classes. At OAHS, the "Visiting Chefs" program continued to be a highly popular interdisciplinary addition to the school year. Local chefs from Easton and surrounding communities, including Chef Jim Messinger and Chef Mike Mattola, volunteered their expertise in the field to benefit the development of student skills.

In the English Department, the most wide spread changes in the English classroom continued to focus on the increased use of technology, including the communication of English and analytical skills through a variety of media. Student generated videos, power point presentations, performances, speeches, creative projects, academic research, and scholarly writing are just a few examples of the diverse means of expression employed by the students in the English classroom. Students who were recognized for their appreciation of literature included Dan Farrell, Erika Rydberg, Jenna Webber, Ji Hye Ham, and Jesse Finnegan. As part of National Education Week, winners of the school wide essay contest were Will Matterson, Mike Sirois, and Jesse Hanawalt. Also, Easton winners of the *Brockton Enterprise* essay contest "Get Out the Vote" included Maria Cavarretta, Courtney Coan, and Patricia Ferragamo.

The Physical Education Department continued with a unique dimension to its program with the inclusion of "Quidditch" into the elementary curriculum. "Quidditch" provides a medium for interdisciplinary teaching and learning by applying imagery from reading lessons to an adaptation of the game of lacrosse. Classroom activities and current events are connected with meaningful experiences in physical education that foster school spirit, respect, responsibility, and good sportsmanship. The physical education staff at the junior high school continued to instill enthusiasm for running and cardiovascular fitness by sponsoring the annual "Muscato Mile," which coincided with the Great American Smoke-Out and encouraged students to make wise decisions regarding their health. At the high school, students focused on an awareness of the health-related components of fitness by completing writing assignments on cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength and endurance. These are then kept in student portfolios.

Mathematics students in the secondary schools continued to score well above the norm in both the state mandated MCAS exam and the SAT exam. Two-thirds of the students in Mrs. Boyle's AP Calculus class received a score of 4 or higher to qualify for college credits, with approximately half of them receiving the highest possible score. Also, the OAHS Mathematics Team, with students from Algebra II to AP Calculus, were quite successful on the challenging tests provided by the American Scholastic Mathematics Association. Students on the junior high school Mathematics Team once again excelled in the American Mathematics competition.

In the Science Department, at the grade 9 level, the physical science program moved into its third year of operation, utilizing technology grant money to support this initiative with laptop computers and state-of-the-art data collection probes. The grade 7 engineering technology program again included grade 8 students, affording them practical problem solving experience and preparatory skills for the grade 9 physical sciences program.

At the high school level, the Oliver Ames Science Team restructured the Science Olympiad at the Olmsted and Richardson Schools. More than one hundred Honors Chemistry students helped to prepare and implement hands-on science activities for the elementary students in these two elementary schools. The activities focused on science processing and higher level thinking skills. Graphing, extrapolation, measurement, estimation, inventing, communication, and inferring were emphasized in this interdisciplinary program.

The following Industrial Technology students received personal recognition for their craftsmanship and work ethic: Automotive Technology – Matt Vaughan; Auto Body Technology – Andy Salisbury; Architectural Building Engineering – Greg Pray; Building Construction and Cabinetmaking – Jeff Keach; Manufacturing Design Technology – William Willard; Manufacturing Technology – Peter Narsasian; and, Manufacturing Engineering Technology – Aaron Daniels.

Elementary school students continued to achieve and find success in a variety of forums. Among the areas to be highlighted are the following: the "Jump Rope for Heart" initiative; the Science Olympiad, through the coordination of the high school Science Team; the annual school wide art shows at both the Richardson School and the Olmsted School; the Biography Wax Museum for grade five students at Richardson; the Olmsted School grade 4 musical, "A Tapestry of Tales;" the district-wide grade 3 Family Science Night; the Bullying Education Program for grade 4 and grade 5 students, sponsored by Kids CARRE and the Easton Family Task Force; Mother/Daughter and Father/Son Nights; the opportunity to participate in the grade 5 and 6 National Geography Bee.

Other elementary activities included student fundraising activities to provide support for victims of the Tsunami disaster; ongoing community service endeavors; the Dr. Seuss' birthday reading celebration activities; the outstanding projects displayed in the elementary school invention conventions; the continued success shown by students in the New England Math League; participation in the Johns Hopkins Talent Search; the accomplishments of the Future Problem Solving Teams; student participation in the social competency programs; the SAFE Fire Safety Program; the Northeast Search Dogs Program; the Read Across America Program; the Operation Mail Call; the Lions Club Peace Poster International Contest; the World of Difference curriculum; Portfolio Breakfasts; and, individual school programs for students such as student councils, school stores, student newsletters and newspapers, reading incentive programs, family math, science, technology and literacy nights, summer reading programs, and citizen of the month recognition.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Study of the strategies underlying successful, in-depth implementation of a revised, standards-based Mathematics curriculum at the K – 6 level was a primary focus of the professional development program at the elementary level. Training on the use of "Exemplars," "Everyday Math" and "Investigations," in addition to graduate courses that supported the deepening of mathematical content, was provided.

Teachers in the elementary schools also participated in workshops, institutes, mini-courses, study groups and graduate courses on a number of topics, including the following: Diagnostic Reading Assessment; Best Works Portfolio and Assessment Folders; Developing Fluency in Young Readers; Teaching Report Writing Skills in the Interdisciplinary Classroom; Making Guided Reading Work in a Balanced Literacy Classroom; Differentiated Instruction; Teaching Comprehension in order to Enhance Understanding; Integration of the Arts; The Power of Retelling; Power Point; Literature and Literacy; Cooperative Learning; Instructional Technology; Motivating and Inspiring Students; Student Restraint Training; Special Education Topics; Autism and Asperger's Syndrome; Wilson Reading; Gifted and Talented Education; Mentoring New Teachers; Social Competency; Handwriting Practices; MCAS Preparation; and, Standards Based Classrooms.

At the junior high school level, the primary focus for professional development was one transforming the current junior high school to a middle school philosophy and structure. The high school, in anticipation of the fall, 2004 visit by the NEAS&C accreditation team, addressed a number of topics related to the self-evaluation and upcoming evaluation.

At the secondary level, professional development initiatives also focused on a number of topics, including the following: Literacy Strategies; Curriculum Design and Instruction; Effective Strategies for Teaching Middle School Students; Teaching Report Writing Skills in the Interdisciplinary Classroom; Student Restraint Training; Using Power Point for Classroom Presentations; Developing Websites; the MECNet e-mail system; MCAS Alternative Assessment; Learning Disabilities; Inclusion at the Secondary Level; Media Education in the Arts; Assessing Learning Styles; Exploring the Connection Between Art and Writing; Using the I-Movie as an Instructional Tool; Using Inspiration 6.0; Music Learning Theory; Understanding Teaching I; and Mentor Teacher Training.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT/ACTIVITIES

Doreen Graff, school nurse at the Parkview School, was selected by the Lions Club as Humanitarian of the Year. Also at the Parkview School, Nancy May and Paul Smith completed their Masters Degree programs, and Tim Harrington was featured in Who's Who of America's Teachers.

Jeanne Baxter, remedial specialist at the Moreau Hall School, developed and implemented a Literacy Corps of Volunteers at the school. Fifteen parents and residents of the Easton community were recruited and trained to help youngsters who were having difficulty in reading. A special Volunteer Recognition Breakfast was geld in the spring to honor all of the members of the Literacy Corps.

Karen Daly of the Center School staff received her Masters Degree, while a number of Center School teachers were cooperating practitioners for students from Stonehill College, including Julie Paul, Barbara Anderson, Diane Skehan, Lauren Egizio, Kimberly Krockta, and Robin Goldstein. The Center School also trained twenty Literacy Volunteers to work with students in the area of reading.

Kerri Schwarz and Shawna Powers of the Olmsted satff, and Maura Fine and Kristen Maffeo of the Richardson staff were approved to implement a pilot job-sharing teaching model in grade 5. In this pilot program, two teachers in each school share a fifth grade class of students and the responsibility for all areas of the curriculum and social development.

Also at the Richardson School, teacher Lisa Moschella was awarded her Masters Degree in Instructional Technology and teacher Laura Murphy completed her Masters Degree in Elementary Education.

At the Olmsted School, Eleanor Berry was chosen by the Lions Club as Easton Educator of the Year, and Lauren Caulkins completed her Masters Degree in Learning and Literacy in the Arts. Teachers Alicia Montross and Erick Chase conducted a summer learning skills program that expanded its focus and population to include incoming fourth, fifth and sixth grade students.

Secondary teacher John Gillis received his Masters Degree in History, while school psychologist Nancy Thompson completed her administrative internship in Special Education. Junior high school staff enrolled in advanced degree programs included Brian Connolly, Jean Fox, Mary McKenna, Dan Garzoglio, Rodney Schussler, Jake Sunderland, Debby Treacy, and Maria Vera.

Also at the secondary level, Maria Annunziato and Elaine Clement-Holbrook were selected as the new co-chairs of the Science Department, and Kathy Boyle was chosen as the new chair of the Mathematics Department.

CURRICULUM/TECHNOLOGY

The Curriculum Coordinating Council, under the direction of Dr. Nancy Sullivan, continued its emphasis on aligning the Easton Public Schools curriculum with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, the district's Strategic Plan, and components of standards driven curriculum as performance based assessments. Nine standing curriculum committees are working under the direction of the coordinating council: Mathematics, co-chaired by Vanessa Beauchaine and Kathy Boyle; Science, co-chaired by Gary Mazzola, Maria Annunziato and Elaine Clement-Holbrook; English/Language Arts, co-chaired by Joan Nicholaides and Nancy Sullivan; Health, co-chaired by Kathy Kelly and Elaine Clement-Holbrook; Technology, co-chaired by Chris Margulies and Jean Churchill; Physical Education, chaired by Christine Powers; Social Studies, co-chaired by Margaret Lynch and Edmund Hands; World Languages, co-chaired by Ron Riley and Bob Smith; and the Arts, co-chaired by Charlene Dalrymple and Arnie Casavant.

Several of the committees completed new curriculum documents in 2004 which were approved by the Easton School Committee for implementation. These included the Art curriculum for grades K – 12 and the Music curriculum for grades 4 – 8. The grade 9 – 12 Music curriculum was revised, as were Social Studies, grade 10 (American Studies), and Business and Computer Technology (Microeconomics AP and Macroeconomics AP). The Industrial Technology/Engineering Program, grades 9 – 12, was reorganized

and the curriculum extensively revised. In addition, long range plans for the school libraries and for technology improvement were completed.

The school system continued its curriculum revision cycle in World Languages, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Technology. World Languages (French III, IV, and V, and Spanish III, IV, and V) were implemented, while Latin, Social Studies K – 6 and grade 8, a new Web Design course, and new Algebra III and Trigonometry courses are currently in the design phase.

In the spring of 2004, an expanded version of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) testing program was administered. Students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10 participated in the MCAS. Following the release of the results in late September, parent meetings were held to disseminate the information and to discuss improvement strategies. Once again, Easton ranked in the top thirty percent of all school districts in Massachusetts.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

At Oliver Ames more than 50% of all high school students participated in an athletic activity, and approximately 25% participated in music or drama.

A number of the varsity sports teams did extremely well this past year. The girls' varsity basketball team won the Hockomock League and went deep into the playoffs in the state tournament. Both the girls' and boys' soccer teams won Hockomock League titles and were very successful in state tournament action. The girls' and boys' cross country teams both finished well in the All-State meet. The varsity field hockey finished second in the Hockomock League and advanced in the state tournament. During the past year, seventeen student athletes from Oliver Ames High School were selected as Hockomock League All-Stars in the various varsity sports. The group of MVP League All-Stars for the Hockomock League included Matt Brown of the boys' soccer team.

In addition to the varsity sports teams, students had the opportunity to participate in 11 junior varsity programs, 6 freshman programs and 6 programs at the Easton Junior High School.

The Easton community and various booster groups again made significant contributions to our athletic program, helping to purchase new uniforms and to sponsor end-of-the-year awards banquets. The creation last year of the Hall of Fame in Easton also evidenced the wonderful support and direction provided by the residents of the town. The student athletes and coaches of the Easton Public Schools are again extremely appreciative of the emotional, financial and fan support provided by the community.

CONCLUSION

The last year was again a time of significant change and transition within the school system. We continue to be extremely concerned about inadequate State Aid and the availability of appropriate resources to meet the expectations that we have for ourselves and our student population. Nevertheless, we are grateful for our many blessings. We appreciate the support of the School Parent Advisory Councils, School Councils, and the various booster groups; the extraordinary efforts of F.E.E.E. and the STEPS organization; the hard work and dedication of the School Committee; and, the excellent and cooperative working relationships among all the members of the entire staff as well as between the schools and the town.

Respectfully submitted,

William Simmons
Superintendent of Schools

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

In April's annual town election, Dawn Marie Boynton was elected to her second three-year term on the committee and Jane Pike Benton was elected to her first three-year term. The committee paid tribute to Lennart Altieri for his 10 years of service, two years as Chair. The committee elected Ellen Barlow Boyajian as Chair and Dawn Boynton as Vice Chair.

The school system's proposed budget of $23,184,090 for Fiscal Year 2005 was approved by Town Meeting in June of 2004. This was a level-services budget, which means that it accommodated negotiated salary increases, and rising fuel and special education costs. It in no way was able to address increased staffing that is needed due to enrollment trends, large class sizes at the secondary level, and programs identified by our educators that the school system should be offering. The budget was adjusted at the December 6, 2004 Special Town Meeting when $111,000 was allocated to the School Department—half of one-time additional lottery money the town of Easton received from the state.

Bids for the secondary school building renovation and addition projects came in over the $68 million authorized by Easton voters, due to the unprecedented skyrocketing costs of steel, concrete, and fuel. Fortunately, however, in the interim since voters approved the projects, the state changed its reimbursement schedule to the town's advantage. Even with the additional $13 million the projects will now cost, Easton taxpayers will pay less than what was originally estimated and approved in 2003. Voters approved the additional monies at a Special Town Meeting on December 6, 2004 and at the voting booths on January 11, 2005.

A groundbreaking ceremony at the Oliver Ames High School on October 15 signalled the start of the now fully-funded project. Joining the School Committee to celebrate this much-anticipated day were members of the School Planning Committee, Municipal Building Committee, our legislative delegation, Selectmen, educators, members of STEPS (support the Easton Public Schools), and 50 high school students, who led a rousing cheer. The junior high component of the project will commence in the summer of 2005, and it is hoped that the whole project will be completed by the end of 2007.

The School Committee took note of the continued dedication and professionalism of our teachers and staff. With limited resources they were able to maintain, even enhance, a learning environment where our students develop both intellectually and socially. Although questions linger about whether achievement tests should be used to judge the quality of schools, a test like the MCAS does provide one barometer. Every senior again passed the MCAS test and graduated, and our students continue to perform in the top one-third of the state. Where our educators have identified a need for improvement is in elementary math, and a new math curriculum was piloted for the 2004/2005 academic year.

Immense gratitude and best wishes go to the staff who retired in 2004: Junior High School Assistant Principal Robert Kass, Athletic Director James Mitchell, Director of Special Services Steven Seery, Parkview Principal Mary Ellen Toscano, Mathematics Department Chair Ed Weiner, Head Nurse Judy Baptiste, physical education teacher Brad Morse, art teacher Margaret Moran, elementary teachers Jennifer Eccleston and Lorna Paone, Olmsted School secretary Muriel Randall, Richardson School Secretary Pamela Terra, and SPED Driver/Custodian Craig Davey.

The School Committee amended its Strategic Plan and added two new goals, anticipating that with the commencement of the school building renovation and addition project, the actions needed to reach our goal of providing and equipping school facilities that are conducive to learning are now underway. Our Action Plan for 2004-2006 has the following four goals:

- **Student Achievement:** all students are held to high expectations and standards through engagement in programs that are designed to maximize student performance.

• **Educator Effectiveness (new):** in order for each school to create learning communities, educators are afforded optimal time to investigate current trends and approaches, necessary resources to access state-of-the-art teaching practices, and sufficient flexibility to regularly communicate with fellow educators.

• **School Effectiveness:** financial resources are obtained, and other resources are effectively leveraged, in order to positively support the achievement of established educational goals and objectives.

• **School Effectiveness (new):** The community is informed about the successes and challenges of the schools, has opportunities for involvement in school initiatives, and regards itself as a full partner in the collaborative enterprise of education.

Although that last goal is new, community involvement is nothing new. Our students have excelled academically, in athletics, and the arts because of the dedication of administrators, staff, and an amazing cadre of parent volunteers. F.E.E.E. (Foundation for Excellence in Education in Easton) raised over $90,000 in 2004, used to fund technology, for which we have not been able to budget. The parent advisory councils (PACS) in each of the seven school buildings continually raise substantial funds for curriculum enrichment programs. Easton's seven School Councils—composed of parents, teachers, and other community members—devote countless hours to the development of individual School Improvement Plans. The fundraising efforts of TEMPO for the music program and the various sports booster clubs are also indispensable. Members of the Police and Fire Departments continue to provide a positive presence in our schools.

Oliver Ames High School proudly showcased its people and programs to an accreditation team from the New England Association of School and Colleges September 19-22. Their formal report is due in February 2005. But we do know from their exit interview that they were impressed with the strong morale, mission-oriented school culture, and positive interactions between students and staff. Their primary, unanimous concern, however, was that because our school system is underfunded, we are not able to offer our students the advanced courses, the technology, and the smaller class sizes that we should be. They cited the very strong expectations that the Easton community has in its schools, which are not being matched by the financial support to realize them.

This is not news to those of us who have watched Easton plunge in "per-pupil expenditure" in Massachusetts. We are now fifth from the bottom in the state in what we are spending to educate each student in Easton. The average spent on a student in Massachusetts in 2004 was $8,277 and we are spending $6,409.

One of the roles and responsibilities of School Committee is to make sure the necessary funds are appropriated by the district. In that role, we are working with the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee to bring to the voters of Easton in 2005 a funding proposal that would more adequately support the high expectations our community has for services. It is time to take a hard look at the town's structural deficit and make a decision about what kind of future we want in Easton.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Barlow Boyajian, Chair
Dawn Boynton, Vice Chair
Caroline S. O'Neill
William P. Braun
Jane Pike Benton

REPORT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ralph Armstead, School Committee Member

The Southeastern Regional School District offers twenty vocational/technical training programs at its high school and five post-secondary programs at its technical institute. On October 1, 2004, 1,196 students were enrolled in the high school and 136 students were enrolled in the technical institute. Easton had 58 students enrolled in Southeastern.

Southeastern Regional is affiliated with the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) to develop ways to improve the delivery of vocational-technical education to our students. The SREB and their High Schools That Work (HSTW) program is a nationally-recognized school reform network. Much of the improvements of Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) scores, including increased promotion, retention and graduation rates for Southeastern students are the result of improvements that were initiated through the HSTW program. The HSTW reform initiative is funded through grants from the Massachusetts Department of Education under the Comprehensive School Reform program. The teacher-lead HSTW team developed an action plan for the next three years focusing on reading, writing, and mathematics and an Advisor/Advisee program for incoming students. Teachers and administrators from Southeastern Regional shared their successes through presentations at the HSTW national conference this year.

Southeastern Regional continues to receive grants from a variety of state and federal sources that augment local funds to improve and expand the education services we provide. Southeastern continues its collaboration with MY TURN, a private non-profit organization based in Brockton, providing students with school-to-career activities.

Southeastern Regional graduated 234 students, the highest number of graduates in the past ten years. Students from the Class of 2004 were required to pass the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) for graduation. Ninety-seven percent of the class received diplomas after meeting this requirement. Placement records indicate that 96.1% of the Class of 2004 were placed in full-time jobs or had elected to pursue post secondary education.

Program Advisory Committees met in November to discuss and provide recommendations for curriculum, instruction and equipment improvements to allow each program to meet industry standards. These committees, made up of industry representatives, parents, and students met again in April to discuss their conclusions and make recommendations to the Southeastern Regional School District Committee. These recommendations are the basis for the continuing improvement of programs at Southeastern.

The Southeastern Technical Institute continues to operate five, full-time day programs: Licensed Practical Nursing, Medical Assisting, Administrative Office Technology, Dental Assisting, and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC). The Technical Institute works closely with the business community to assure students' skills match the skills required by employers. The strongest labor market demand in this area continues to be in the health care field.

The Evening School has expanded to four nights, Monday through Thursday. We continue to recruit new evening school teachers and look for new programs. Classes range from one-night seminars to two and three-night per week courses. Special computer courses for seniors are also offered. The Technical Institute is interested in offering additional customized training programs to business and industry.

Report of the Town Collector
Schedule of Taxes and Water Rates
for the Year Ending June 30, 2004

	Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2003	Commitments	Abatements Adjustments & Disclaimers	Tranfers to Tax Title	Collections, Net of Refunds	Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2004
Personal Property						
2001	2,304	-	117	-	44	2,143
2002	3,842	-	267	-	916	2,659
2003	12,061	-	707	-	1,732	9,622
2004	-	344,360	177	-	339,342	4,841
	$ 18,207	$ 344,360	$ 1,268	$ -	$ 342,034	$ 19,265
Real Estate						
1997	503	-	-	-	-	503
2002	(515)	-	-	-	(532)	17
2003	427,819	-	912	166,137	256,771	3,999
2004	-	26,976,446	89,525	501	26,412,361	474,059
	$ 427,807	$ 26,976,446	$ 90,437	$ 166,638	$ 26,668,600	$ 478,578
Motor Vehicle Excise						
1986	17,217	-	-	-	16	17,201
1987	21,412	-	-	-	134	21,278
1988	26,908	-	-	-	212	26,696
1989	24,427	-	-	-	425	24,002
1990	21,722	-	-	-	74	21,648
1991	15,244	-	-	-	109	15,135
1992	11,919	-	-	-	34	11,885
1993	11,803	-	-	-	90	11,713
1994	11,558	-	-	-	163	11,395
1995	8,560	-	-	-	74	8,486
1996	8,577	-	-	-	365	8,212
1997	6,849	-	-	-	45	6,804
1998	8,651	-	-	-	89	8,562
1999	8,213	-	-	-	776	7,437
2000	13,558	-	345	-	1,929	11,284
2001	21,621	-	351	-	4,357	16,913
2002	52,946	13,859	1,693	-	38,496	26,616
2003	213,520	463,632	38,769	-	587,476	50,907
2004	-	2,565,096	88,967	-	2,311,289	164,840
	$ 504,705	$ 3,042,587	$ 130,125	$ -	$ 2,946,153	$ 471,014
Water Rates and Services	$ 232,638	$ 2,653,531	$ -	$ 104,527	$ 2,570,588	$ 211,054

Report of the Collector
Motor Vehicle Receipts
June 30, 2004

Levy of 2004	$	2,311,288.91
Levy of 2003	$	587,475.98
Levy of 2002	$	38,496.33
Levy of 2001	$	4,357.75
Levy of 2000	$	1,928.87
Levy of 1999	$	776.47
Levy of 1998	$	88.76
Levy of 1997	$	45.73
Levy of 1996	$	365.59
Levy of 1995	$	74.17
Levy of 1994	$	163.02
Levy of 1993	$	90.00
Levy of 1992	$	33.75
Levy of 1991	$	108.75
Levy of 1990	$	73.75
Levy of 1989	$	425.00
Levy of 1988	$	212.30
Levy of 1987	$	133.85
Levy of 1986	$	16.22
8 of 58's	$	240.12
Total Collected	$	2,946,395.32

Report of the Town Treasurer
July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004

Bank Accounts	Balance June 30, 2003	+ Receipts	-Payments	Balance June 30, 2004
Cash - includes general fund, capitol projects, special revenues, enterprise funds, and agency funds	$ 14,932,426.54	$ 84,998,608.79	$ 67,448,049.81	$ 32,482,985.52
Trust Funds				
Stabilization Fund	$ 1,011,865.79	$ 1,022,427.59	$ 1,352,069.68	$ 682,223.70
Conservation Fund	$ 1,261,902.52	$ 88,823.08	$ 365,873.61	$ 984,851.99
Unemployment Compensation	$ 80,829.25	$ 1,064.25	$ 1,830.00	$ 80,063.50
Pension Reserve Fund	$ 358,194.03	$ 2,199.16	$ 359,410.00	$ 983.19
Police Forefeiture Account	$ 10,784.15	$ 112.08	$ 275.00	$ 10,621.23
Law Enforcement Trust Fund	$ 6,578.67		$ 2,185.00	$ 4,393.67
Mary Stone Library Fund	$ 5,511.40	$ 78.64	$ -	$ 5,590.04
Subtotal	**$ 2,735,665.81**	**$ 1,114,704.80**	**$ 2,081,643.29**	**$ 1,768,727.32**
				$ -
Scholarship Funds				$ -
Ellen Atwood	$ 2,057.36	$ 29.36	$ -	$ 2,086.72
Parker Ames	$ 86,204.64	$ 23,112.36	$ 22.92	$ 109,294.08
Mary A. Stone	$ 6,097.13	$ 87.00	$ -	$ 6,184.13
World War Memorial	$ 52,588.08	$ 1,378.02	$ 1,000.00	$ 52,966.10
Young	$ 3,083.52	$ 43.99	$ -	$ 3,127.51
Subtototal	**$ 150,030.73**	**$ 24,650.73**	**$ 1,022.92**	**$ 173,658.54**
				$ -
Cementary Perpetual Care Funds				$ -
Furnace Village Cemetary	$ 22,035.09	$ 314.41	$ 361.07	$ 21,988.43
Pine Grove Cemetary	$ 3,809.60	$ 54.35	$ 62.42	$ 3,801.53
Immacualte Conception	$ 7,691.25	$ 109.74	$ 126.03	$ 7,674.96
South Easton	$ 10,017.85	$ 142.94	$ 164.15	$ 9,996.64
Unionville & Town Cemetaries	$ 12,907.54	$ 184.17		$ 13,091.71
Subtotal	**$ 56,461.33**	**$ 805.61**	**$ 713.67**	**$ 56,553.27**
Total Cash	**$ 17,874,584.41**	**$ 86,138,769.93**	**$ 69,531,429.69**	**$ 34,481,924.65**

Report of the Town Treasurer
Debt Statement
June 30, 2004

Long Term Debt Inside Debt Limit	Outstanding July, 1, 2003	Issued	Principal Paid	Interest Paid	Outstanding June 30, 2004
Buildings					
Police Station Refunding '98	178,000.00		178,000.00	3,827.00	0.00
Library Addition'00	620,000.00		40,000.00	30,305.00	580,000.00
TOTAL	**798,000.00**		**218,000.00**	**34,132.00**	**580,000.00**
School Buildings					
Four School Roofs	475,000.00		100,000.00	24,800.00	375,000.00
School Renovations '94	35,000.00		35,000.00	1,907.50	0.00
New School '97	17,940,000.00		845,000.00	831,227.51	17,095,000.00
School Planning '03	1,900,000.00		95,000.00	67,497.50	1,805,000.00
TOTAL	**20,350,000.00**		**1,075,000.00**	**925,432.51**	**19,275,000.00**
Other Inside Debt					
Land '97	400,800.00		41,200.00	20,088.00	359,600.00
Conservation Land '97 (70.5%)	447,196.10		45,317.40	22,409.10	401,878.70
Conservation Land-Elm St. '99	94,200.00		15,700.00	4,240.34	78,500.00
ConCom Land-Poquanticut '99	88,200.00		14,700.00	3,969.00	73,500.00
ConCom Land-Lewis Farm '01	95,000.00		10,000.00	4,547.50	85,000.00
Rec Land Foundry Street	260,000.00		20,000.00	12,702.50	240,000.00
MWPAT Wastewater Mgmt Study	254,729.12		24,256.08	2,562.32	230,473.04
TOTAL	**1,640,125.22**		**171,173.48**	**70,518.76**	**1,468,951.74**
SUBTOTAL Inside Debt	**22,788,125.22**		**1,464,173.48**	**1,030,083.27**	**21,323,951.74**

Long Term Debt Outside Debt Limit	Outstanding July, 1, 2003	Issued	Retired	Interest Paid	Outstanding June 30, 2004
Solid Waste					
Landfill Closure '01	1,610,000.00		95,000.00	79,387.50	1,515,000.00
Landfill Closure '02	1,150,000.00		85,000.00	43,543.74	1,065,000.00
Landfill Closure '03	2,400,000.00		120,000.00	85,260.00	2,280,000.00
MWPAT	129,999.00		7,657.00	0.00	122,342.00
TOTAL	**5,289,999.00**		**307,657.00**	**208,191.24**	**4,982,342.00**

Long Term Debt Outside Debt Limit	Outstanding July, 1, 2003	Issued	Retired	Interest Paid	Outstanding June 30, 2004
Water					
Well, Pumping Station '92	150,000.00		30,000.00	7,890.00	120,000.00
Water Mains '92	100,000.00		20,000.00	5,260.00	80,000.00
Water Bonds '94	65,000.00		65,000.00	3,542.50	0.00
Water Mains '94	110,000.00		110,000.00	5,995.00	0.00
Water Mains '97	174,880.00		44,520.00	8,391.04	130,360.00
Water Bonds Refunding	67,000.00		67,000.00	1,440.50	0.00
Land(29.5%)	187,123.90		18,962.60	9,376.86	168,161.30
Water Mains '99	420,000.00		70,000.00	18,897.30	350,000.00
Water Mains '03	1,100,000.00		110,000.00	35,310.00	990,000.00
Water Mains '03	300,000.00		30,000.00	9,630.00	270,000.00
Land-Freeman '99	297,600.00		49,600.00	13,393.36	248,000.00
HVAC Remodeling '01	160,000.00		20,000.00	7,300.00	140,000.00
Well #7, '01	160,000.00		20,000.00	7,300.00	140,000.00
Ultraviolet Equipment '02	440,000.00		55,000.00	15,386.26	385,000.00
Land-Freitas '02	300,000.00		25,000.00	11,298.76	275,000.00
TOTAL	**4,031,603.90**		**735,082.60**	**160,411.58**	**3,296,521.30**
SUBTOTAL Outside Debt	**9,321,602.90**		**1,042,739.60**	**368,602.82**	**8,278,863.30**
GRAND TOTAL All Debt	**32,109,728.12**		**2,506,913.08**	**1,398,686.09**	**29,602,815.04**

Short Term Debt	Outstanding July, 1, 2003	New Debt Issued	Retired	Outstanding June 30, 2004	Interest Paid in FY 04
Bond Anticipation Notes					
School Buildings		$ 20,000,000.00		20,000,000.00	
Water		$ 200,000.00		200,000.00	
Capital Budget '05		$ 594,000.00		594,000.00	
Road Improvements		$ 300,000.00		300,000.00	
TOTAL	**0.00**	**$ 21,094,000.00**	**0.00**	**21,094,000.00**	**0.00**

Annual Report of Tax Title

	TAX	CPA	TOTAL
Balance - June 30, 2003	$377,233.94	$1,727.18	$378,961.12
Additions:			
Takings through FY '04 taxes	$69,650.99	$1,304.26	$70,955.25
Subsequent Year '03	$81,104.04	$1,177.69	$82,281.73
Deductions:			
Redemptions	$81,413.06	$806.98	$82,220.04
Balance - June 30, 2004	**$446,575.91**	**$3,402.15**	**$449,978.06**

Report of the Town Treasurer
Authorized and Unissued Debt
June 30, 2004

Date of Vote	Article No.	Purpose	Amount Authorized Rescinded	Issued Retired	Unissued June 30, 2004
4/10/1995	15	Well & Pumping Station	1,500,000.00	200,000.00	1,300,000.00
4/8/1996	7	Library Remodeling	5,000,000.00	700,000.00	4,300,000.00
4/13/1998	20	Rockery Grant (SAN)	64,000.00		64,000.00
5/11/1998	60	MWPAT-Septic Loan Program	62,343.00		62,343.00
11/22/1999	15	Rockery Grant (SAN)	100,000.00		100,000.00
6/4/2001	8	Water Dept. Addition	150,000.00		150,000.00
5/20/2002	20	Water Ultraviolet Equipment	200,000.00		200,000.00
5/20/2002	12	Library Access Road	400,000.00		400,000.00
1/13/2003	22	School Construction	67,900,000.00	1,900,000.00	66,000,000.00
6/9/2003	16	Capital Equipment/Road Work	1,120,000.00		1,120,000.00
5/25/2005	50	Purchase of Moreau Hall Land	350,000.00		350,000.00
5/25/2005	37	Meter Replacement Program	600,000.00		600,000.00
		Total Authorized and Unissued Debt			**74,646,343.00**

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Bertram
Acting Collector/Treasurer

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant
Elizabeth Morgan, Assistant Town Accountant
Adilia Collazo, Principal Clerk
TEL: (508) 230-0560
FAX: (508) 230-0569
E-Mail: wnightingale@easton.ma.us

I hereby submit the report of the Town Accountant for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004, which includes the balance sheet as of that date and the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund equity.

The office of the Town Accountant is responsible for the accounting and control of all town funds, disbursements, and financial records in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and by-laws of the Town of Easton. In addition, responsibilities include maintenance of the Town's general ledger system including detailed records of cash receipts, appropriations and expenditures, and the closing of all financial books at the end of the fiscal year. The Town Accountant prepares financial statements and reports, assists in the preparation of the Town budget and works with the independent auditors on the annual financial and compliance audit.

Our annual audit for the fiscal year is in process and will be completed shortly by Melanson, Heath & Company, PC of Andover, Massachusetts. The annual year-end closing of the "books" as of June 30th went very smoothly. Financial Statements were prepared as of that date and submitted to the Department of Revenue for free cash certification.

I would especially like to thank my Assistant, Elizabeth Morgan and Principal Clerk, Adilia Collazo for all their hard work and dedication during the year, particularly during my maternity leave. In addition, I thank all the Town Departments, Boards, Commissions and Committees for their cooperation and support this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Nightingale
Town Accountant

TOWN OF EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND EQUITY
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2004

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group	Total
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt	(Memorandum Only)
Revenues							
Property taxes	27,114,745.72	571,318.43	-	-	-	-	27,686,064.15
Excise taxes	2,946,395.32	-	-	-	-	-	2,946,395.32
Penalties & interest	157,194.17	1,543.40	-	25,839.92	-	-	184,577.49
Licenses, permits and fees	1,011,344.98	-	-	-	-	-	1,011,344.98
Investment income	116,522.60	19,645.68	-	16,939.86	46,832.93	-	199,941.07
Departmental	433,229.63	561,565.27	-	-	-	-	994,794.90
Fines	60,796.71	-	-	-	-	-	60,796.71
Intergovernmental - state	10,796,990.35	1,143,138.19	121,212.00	-	-	-	12,061,340.54
Intergovernmental - federal	-	1,102,176.74	-	-	-	-	1,102,176.74
User charges	-	-	-	2,621,155.88	-	-	2,621,155.88
Other	279,163.55	1,589,778.08	-	22,613.51	3,000.00	-	1,894,555.14
	42,916,383.03	4,989,165.79	121,212.00	2,686,549.17	49,832.93	-	50,763,142.92
Expenditures							
General government	8,474,896.51	118,135.24	-	-	51,500.00	-	8,644,531.75
Public safety	5,324,245.15	560,639.34	244,010.94	-	1,275.00	-	6,130,170.43
Education	22,650,202.21	2,276,178.62	3,042,423.79	-	713.67	-	27,969,518.29
Public works	1,940,855.99	257,155.51	1,261,366.82	-	-	-	3,459,378.32
Water	-	-	-	1,253,004.95	-	-	1,253,004.95
Human services	519,805.30	24,321.55	-	-	-	-	544,126.85
Culture and recreation	474,326.18	259,457.22	-	-	-	-	733,783.40
Debt service	3,010,104.99	-	-	160,411.58	-	-	3,170,516.57
State and county assessments	568,468.01	-	-	-	-	-	568,468.01
Capital outlay	177,498.65	-	-	-	-	-	177,498.65
	43,140,402.99	3,495,887.48	4,547,801.55	1,413,416.53	53,488.67	-	52,650,997.22
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(224,019.96)	1,493,278.31	(4,426,589.55)	1,273,132.64	(3,655.74)	-	(1,887,854.30)
Other financing sources (uses):							
Proceeds from long-term borrowing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	2,090,550.82	(596,765.82)	-	(547,986.00)	(945,799.00)	-	-
	2,090,550.82	(596,765.82)	-	(547,986.00)	(945,799.00)	-	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other uses	1,866,530.86	896,512.49	(4,426,589.55)	725,146.64	(949,454.74)	-	(1,887,854.30)
Beginning fund equity	2,076,814.16	2,746,425.90	3,713,051.66	30,117,101.12	2,938,393.87	-	41,591,786.71
Ending fund equity	3,943,345.02	3,642,938.39	(713,537.89)	30,842,247.76	1,988,939.13	-	39,703,932.41

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT

The Annual Audit of the Books and Accounts of the Town of Easton for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2004 was made by Melanson Heath & Company, PC, Certified Public Accountants. A copy of the report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

I would like to recognize Kenneth Martin for his thirty-five years of service to the Department of Public Works, serving in both the Tree Division and the Building and Grounds Division, and Margaret Hannigan for her ten years of service in the Water Division. Their dedication and hard work will be greatly missed at the D.P.W.

The Town Administrator, Martha White, and I have met with representatives of the towns of Raynham, West Bridgewater and the city of Taunton forming a committee with a representative of the Southeast Regional Services Group (SERSG) to deal with the proposed installation of a 20" water main through our communities to supply water to the city of Brockton from a new desalinization plant in Dighton to be built by Aquaria. Our efforts are to ensure equal protection and compensation to each community along the pipeline route. Negotiations with Aquaria have provided funding for us to hire an independent engineering firm, Dufresne & Henry, to review and comment on the proposed pipeline route, installation, and traffic management plan. Construction is proposed for 2005.

Dr. Green and I have spent much time attending meetings held every two weeks at the High School and numerous on-site meetings during the day with the architect, project manager and contractor to ensure the High School remains operational during the renovation project.

During the past year we have had very few issues at the closed landfill. The computerized active gas flare has operated very well. Camp Dresser and McKee Inc. of Cambridge has provided us with technical oversight and provided ground water monitoring and air quality tests as required by the MA Department of Environmental Protection. Mowing of the top and side slopes of the twenty acre site was provided by a sub contractor.

Plans for the 100% design of a portion of Depot Street from the Five Corners to Fox Ridge Road were presented to MA Highway as part of the Federal and State Transportation Improvement Program with a cost of 1.3 million dollars. The project has been advertised by the State and we are hopeful that work will begin in the spring of 2005.

We conducted a public hearing with our consulting traffic engineers, Vanasse Hagen Brustlin Inc., for the 25% submission of plans for the reconstruction of Foundry Street from Eastman Street to the Norton town line to include sidewalks and drainage. This project will be funded through the State and Federal Transportation Improvement Program with an estimated value of three million dollars. Work may begin in 2007, depending on the funding.

MA Highway conducted a public hearing on the 25% submission of plans for the replacement of the Central Street bridge over the Queset Brook The estimated cost for this project is $820,000 which would include the bridge repair, a five foot sidewalk to route 138 and road improvements. The bridge would be closed during construction with traffic detoured to Depot Street. Work on this project is scheduled for 2007, depending on funding.

The D.P.W. was very busy with public events during 2004:

- The Building and Grounds Division celebrated Arbor Day on April 30, 2004 by planting a tree in front of the D.P.W. at 130 Center Street and conducting a ceremony in memory of former employee, Joe Cardoza. Over fifty people were in attendance.
- The Water Division hosted their Annual Open House and Poster Contest on May 1, 2004 with over 100 attendees, celebrating National Drinking Water Week.
- The Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day was held on May 8, 2004. Five hundred sixty-five residents participated in this event, funded by the Water Division at a cost of approximately $20,000 for the one day collection, removing hazardous chemicals safely and

helping to protect our water supplies. The Lions Club worked with us collecting household items providing residents a means for disposing of larger items.

- The Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee held their Annual Awareness Day at the Wheaton Farm pumping station on May 15, 2004. Superintendent, John Marsh, gave a tour of the new ultraviolet light disinfection technology.

The D.P.W. personnel responded to twenty-one sanding and ten snow plowing operations during 2004. There are 408 streets in Easton covering 128.98 miles.

Major Construction Projects Completed in 2004

Roadway Paving:

		Linear Feet	Miles
Massapoag Avenue		11,502	
Elm Street		5,200	
Bay Road		12,280	
Total		28,982	5.49

Cement Sidewalk Construction:

		Linear Feet	Miles
Elm Street		5,200	
Day Street		2,100	
Williams Street	400		
Total		7,700	1.46

Drainage Installation:

		Linear Feet	Miles
Elm Street		1,800	
Judith Road		600	
Total		2,400	0.46

Traffic Marking: (Linepainting)

		Linear Feet		Miles
Total		255,088	48.31	

Crack-Sealing Roadways:

		Linear Feet	Miles
Main Street		10,625	
Turnpike Street	7,430		
Bay Road		18,850	
Total		36,905	6.99

Roadway Pot-Hole Patching:

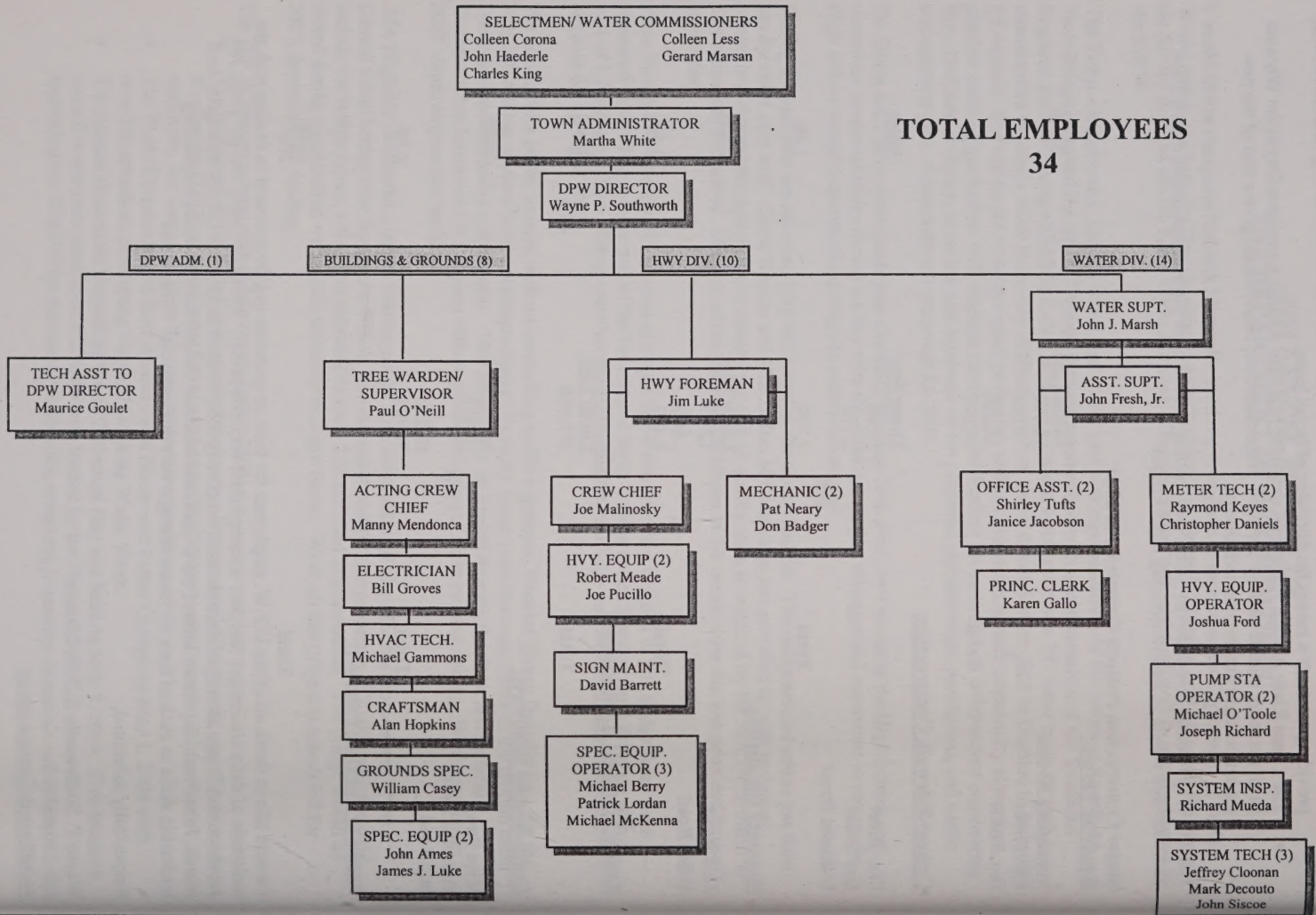
	Tons
Total	200

I would like to thank all of the D.P.W. employees for their cooperation and commitment in dealing with the multitude of daily challenges that they accomplished very effectively. The office staff, Shirley Tufts, Jan Jacobson and Peggy Hannigan demonstrated excellent public relation skills. The D.P.W. managers, Jack Marsh, John Fresh, Jr., James Luke, Paul O'Neill and Maurice Goulet, have provided outstanding leadership skills in each of their divisions during a very difficult year. "Thank you"

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne P. Southworth, D.P.W. Director
508-230-0850
wsouthworth@easton.ma.us

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - FY 05



TOTAL EMPLOYEES
34

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUILDING & GROUNDS DIVISION

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

During the past year the Building & Grounds Division maintained all the town owned buildings which include seven schools, three Fire Stations, the Police Station, Town Office, Department of Public Works garage and various other buildings around town. By doing as much of the work as possible in house we have saved a considerable amount of money. The heat in the auditorium at the Oliver Ames High School hadn't worked in approximately five years due to being condemned. Our new HVAC Technician, Michael Gammons, reassessed the heating unit and was able to get it working again in about five hours time. The Lenox rooftop unit in the A-wing would have cost $5,000 to replace but cost $400 to repair. Air conditioning units and air compressors were repaired at a considerable savings to the town. A special thanks to Mike Gammons for all his hard work and innovativeness.

We removed one of the original boilers at the Junior High School using town forces so a replacement boiler could be brought in. Prices for condensate pumps to be repaired or replaced were $3,000 to $5,000 each, these were also done in house for a cost of $900 per pump. Coils for univents were made instead of being purchased for one sixth of the cost. Steam traps and thermostats were replaced and steam pipes were repaired.

The refrigeration cooler unit at the Center School was rebuilt by Mike Gammons, Manuel Mendonca and Jim Luke over the summer at a cost of $1,500 – replacement would have been $6,100. Condensate pumps, steam traps, and a hot water heater were also replaced. Storage areas were cleaned out and shelves installed to make room for supplies

Fire Alarm Systems were updated at Center School, Parkview School and Moreau Hall. Emergency lighting was installed throughout the Junior High School. Electrical work is constantly being done throughout the schools and other town buildings.

The Building & Grounds Division maintains the grounds at the schools, Town Office, Police & Fire Station, Public Works Building, and the Rockery as well as twenty-six town owned cemeteries throughout the town. Mowing is done along grass strips between the sidewalk and street in the Industrial Park, Depot Street bike path and Center Street.

The Division is also responsible for lining the fields for sports such as baseball, softball, field hockey, soccer, football and track. With the construction going on at the high school for the next few years there may be less mowing but a lot more lining of the fields due to the same fields being used for several different sports. This extensive use of the limited fields may make it difficult to maintain them.

We have continued the maintenance of trees along the roadside whenever possible, trimming and removing dead, dying and/or dangerous trees throughout the town. Brush has been removed along roads for better visibility at intersections, curves, and around signs. The stump grinding machine, which we share with ten other towns, has not been available to us as often as needed but the stumps that need to be removed will be done as soon as possible. Trees are planted to replace those removed whenever possible. Trees damaged by storms are cleared from roadways and wires then chipped up. Firewood and wood chips are delivered to residents upon request.

April 30, 2004 was Arbor Day in Massachusetts. The Town of Easton celebrated by dedicating two white flowering Dogwoods in honor of Joseph Cardoza, a twenty seven year employee of the Easton Tree Division who retired on March 30, 1990 and has since passed away.

We also assist other town departments by setting up for elections, town meeting, graduation and town and holiday events. We work with the Highway Division in snow removal and sanding operations during the winter months.

I would like to express my gratitude to all the employees of the Building & Grounds Division: Acting Crew Chief Manuel Mendonca, Electrician William Groves, Craftsman Alan Hopkins, Grounds Specialist William Casey, H.V.A.C. Technician Michael Gammons, Special Equipment Operators John Ames and James Luke. I would also like to thank the Highway Division and the Water Division for their help when needed and the office staff for keeping things running smoothly throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul O'Neill
Tree Warden/Building & Grounds Supervisor

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE TOWN OF EASTON WATER DIVISION

MISSION STATEMENT

The Easton Water Division is dedicated to providing, protecting and preserving today's water supplies for tomorrow's consumers. Our commitment is to supply quality water that complies with all State & Federal standards, provide education and excellent customer service, and to be the leaders of our profession.

I respectfully submit the following report and pumping record for the year 2004.

Month	Gallons	Month	Gallons
January	50,208,000	July	89,254,000
February	48,493,000	August	81,059,000
March	50,241,000	September	70,675,000
April	55,213,000	October	53,958,000
May	68,918,000	November	48,617,000
June	85,444,000	December	50,151,000
		Total Pumped	752,231,000

The greatest amount pumped in one day was 3,781,000 gallons on 6/23/2004.

Total 2004 Precipitation was 44.76 inches.

The Water Division responded to 4,484 service and emergency calls:

Connected 89 new services for a total of 7,019 active services
Replaced 2,711 meters
Renewed 10 services
Repaired 18 service leaks
Repaired 12 broken water mains
1 – 2" main 1 – 6" mains 8 – 8" mains 2 – 12" mains

In 2004, new subdivisions and water main improvements added to our system:

468' of 6" water main
5,235' of 8" water main
12 new fire hydrants

We now have a total of 158.3 miles of water mains, 1,405 hydrants and 3,018 street valves in our system.

The Water Division read 14,522 meters, prepared and processed the bills for mailing; 4,053 delinquent notices were mailed and 301 final bills were calculated.

This completed the sixteenth year of our Backflow Prevention Program. Since 1989, we have conducted 284 surveys of facilities to ensure appropriate backflow prevention devices. This year 15 commercial buildings were surveyed. We have 244 testable devices in the system, 144 double check valve assemblies, 100 reduced pressure zone backflow preventers and 14 non-required devices. This year 301 backflow prevention device tests were performed.

In order to meet the requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, we have taken the following samples for analysis:

651 bacteriological
6 nitrate
3 routine chemical
50 lead
49 copper
6 secondary contaminants
6 volatile organic compounds (VOC)
1,623 pH
1,611 chlorine residual
16 Trihalomethane
16 Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)
7 Synthetic Organic Chemical (SOC)
1 Tanic Acid
12 Perchlorate

The meter modernization program continues to move forward. We are nearing completion of 100% radio read technology. Radio read meters are state of the art technology that use an electronic transmitter installed in the water meter. The data is sent to a computer located in a vehicle as an employee drives by a consumer's property. This technology ensures accurate and fast meter reading. During the upcoming year we will be instituting quarterly billing with a goal of monthly billing in the future. Monthly billing will greatly improve accountability and will help alleviate high bills by enabling the consumer to detect leaks and excessive water usage sooner in their home or business.

We continue to survey the water system for leaks using conventional and digital correlation technology. We have completed 19 system-wide leak surveys to date. This program enables us to maintain low unaccounted-for water.

Our SCADA System (**S**upervisory **C**ontrol **A**nd **D**ata **A**cquisition) was upgraded this year to incorporate some of the most advanced technology available today. This system is the heart beat of the water system. SCADA controls all of the pumping stations and monitors each of the water division's facilities for a security breach or equipment malfunction.

The Baldwin Street water main project was awarded to P.J. Hayes Inc., Walpole MA. This project replaced the existing 4 inch unlined cast iron water main that was installed in 1887 with a new 8 inch ductile main. This project increases fire flows and water quality for the residents of Baldwin Street, Parker Terrace, Elise Circle and other surrounding areas. The project is completed with the exception of the final trench pavement. This part of the project will be completed during the upcoming construction season.

This year we performed our 11th consecutive year of system-wide uni-directional flushing program. This program cleans all sediments from the water mains and helps ensure the delivery of safe, clean water to your tap.

The staff continues to educate our peers, students, and the public on conservation and Water Works education. We continue to give numerous presentations to Water Works organizations, providing tours and training to Stonehill College Ecology Class, Brownie and Girl Scout troops, Children's Museum Science Camp, and Natural Resources Trust 6th Grade watershed classes, as well as holding the Annual Open House.

The meeting room at the Easton Water Division office at 417 Bay Road continues to be in high demand, as virtually the only town meeting room, and it was utilized 52 times during the year for both day and evening meetings and training sessions.

We conducted our Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on May 8, 2004 with 565 residents participating at a cost of $15,670.00 to the Town. I would like to thank the Easton Lions Club for their continued effort in assisting in this event with the collection of TV's, computer monitors, and white goods. Our collection day for 2005 has been scheduled for May 14th.

The Water Division hosted its 20th Annual Open House on Saturday, May 1, 2004 with the highlight being the Award Ceremony of our Annual Water Conservation Poster Contest. Hundreds of posters are judged from the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. This contest could not be possible without the excellent cooperation of the Easton school system—especially, Dr. William Simmons, School Superintendent, Arnie Casavant, Achim Krasenbrink, Margaret Moran and Susan Masse of the Art Department. This contest provides a perfect medium to educate the students to the value of water and the need to protect it.

The Water Division continues to remain leaders in the water works industry. Our employees are dedicated and committed to their jobs. As a manager, it is certainly rewarding to have employees of this caliber and I would like to personally thank all of them for their continued efforts: Shirley Tufts, Peggy Hannigan, Janice Jacobson, John Fresh, Jr., Raymond Keyes, Richard Mueda, Joshua Ford, Joseph Richard, Christopher Daniels, Michael O'Toole, Jeffery Cloonan, Mark DeCouto and John Siscoe.

"With Water Works Pride"
John J. Marsh
508-230-0850
jmarsh@easton.ma.us

2004 REPORT OF
THE CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee held 11 meetings during the year. The meetings are rotated within one of the five Member Communities of Easton, Sharon, Foxborough, Mansfield, and Norton.

The meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

The committee held its Annual Canoe River Awareness Day on Saturday, May 15th from 8:30 a.m. to noon at Wheaton Farm on Bay Road in Easton.

A demonstration of Easton's new ultra-violet disinfection technology was presented by Jack Marsh, Easton's water superintendent, at the Wheaton Farm well pumping station.

Committee chairman, Wayne Southworth, presented State Senator Joanne Sprague with a plaque prepared by Leonard Flynn for all of her efforts in supporting our committee.

The water divisions of the five communities provided displays for the event, and canoes were available for the attendees to canoe up the river.

Jennifer Carlino, the conservation agent from Norton, assisted the committee in preparing and sending out proposals for a wildlife habitat evaluation of the Canoe River Aquifer. The committee is still seeking a funding source for this project.

Mansfield member, Leonard Flynn, was honored by his community and the Natural Resources Trust of Mansfield at a dedication ceremony. All conservation land along the Canoe River from East Street in Mansfield to the Norton town line was dedicated as the "Leonard F. and Mary Dee Flynn Conservation Area" by the Mansfield Board of Selectmen, Mansfield Conservation Commission, and the Board of Directors of the Natural Resources Trust of Mansfield.

The committee sent out a press release urging water conservation within the five communities listing the water use restrictions of each town.

The committee spent the majority of its meetings discussing the Green Belt Project and the efforts to acquire 176 acres from MA highway along Route #495 in Norton. The committee offered special thanks to Senator Sprague and Joe Denneen, from her office, along with Leonard Flynn and Jennifer Carlino for the many letters and meeting attendance to see this project through.

Chairman Wayne Southworth was invited to attend a meeting at the Carver Town office by the Southeast Regional Planning Council to discuss the efforts of the CRAAC in protecting the aquifer over the past 17 years, and discussing our designations of a Federal Sole Source Aquifer and State Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The communities within the Plymouth Aquifer are attempting to protect that area from over-development.

Joan Sozio of Foxboro resigned as our delegate to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act Fees Committee. Joan was honored by the Foxboro Water Department at a testimonial for all her dedication to the community and involvement state wide regarding water supply issues.

Dave DeLorenzo of the Mass. D.E.P. attended our meetings and spoke on the new requirements for water conservation of 65 gallons per capita per day and the growth of the region.

The committee thanked Dr. Philip Barske who resigned from our committee as one of Easton's representatives. His expertise will be greatly missed.

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne P. Southworth, Chairman
wsouthworth@easton.ma.us

NOTICE

THE CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WILL MEET THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1:00 P.M., IN ONE OF THE TOWNS OF EASTON, MANSFIELD, NORTON, FOXBOROUGH, OR SHARON.

THE FOLLOWING **2005** SCHEDULE IS PLANNED:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2005	FOXBORO TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2005	NORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2005	MANSFIELD TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2005	EASTON WATER DEPT.
THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2005	SHARON TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2005	FOXBORO TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2005	NORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2005	MANSFIELD TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2005	EASTON WATER DEPT.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2005	SHARON TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2005	FOXBORO TOWN HALL

Present Membership

Norton
Susan Mims
Frederick Watson
Suzanne Erikson

Foxborough
Robert W. Boette
Joan F. Sozio
Leo Potter

Sharon
Gregory Meister
Dave Masciarelli

Easton
John H. Fresh, Jr.
William Hardin
Wayne P. Southworth

Mansfield
Edward Tartufo
Leonard F. Flynn

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE WATER RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Water Resource Advisory Commission is charged with the responsibility of advising the town on the adequacy in quantity and quality of the public water supply. The commission is also responsible for recommendations about acquiring land, surface water, and ground water within the town, as well as land or easements necessary to collect, store, purify, and treat water supplies. All of these responsibilities are being handled extremely well by the Easton Water Division.

Shirley Tufts was reappointed to serve another term on the commission.

The commission met during the year on an as needed basis. Superintendent, John Marsh, met with us to keep us informed on Water Division issues:

- Ultraviolet System
- Well #7 Update
- Water Rate Study
- Baldwin Street Water Main Project

Wayne P. Southworth, DPW Director, met with the commission to discuss:

- Desalination Project
- Storm Water Management

We would like to thank John Marsh, Water Superintendent, and Wayne P. Southworth, DPW Director, for their input and continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley E. Tufts, Chair
508-230-0850
e-mail - stufts@easton.ma.us

Water Resource Advisory Commission Members
James D. Mullen, Jr.
Eugene Packer

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

I hereby submit to you the annual report of the Office of the Inspector of Buildings and Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Single Family Dwellings	80
Multiple Family Dwellings	1
Additions-Residential	127
Alterations-Residential	123
New Commercial	6
Additions-Commercial	10
Alterations-Commercial	43
Demolished Buildings	16
Signs	38
Temporary Signs	12
Swimming Pools	47
Roofs	101
Siding	42
Temporary Tents	27
Earth Removal	1
Wood Stoves	18
Yard Sales	103
Foundations	28
Certificate of Inspections	43
Certificate of Occupancy	101

TOTALS

TOTAL COST OF CONSTRUCTION:		$ 85,469,148.00
Total Building Fees Collected		$ 367,279.00
Total Number of Daily Building Inspections	1525	
Total Number of Wiring Fees Collected		$ 45,489.00
Total Number of Wiring Permits Issued	650	
Total Number of Gas Fees Collected		$ 15,080.00
Total Number of Gas Permits Issued	292	
Total Number of Plumbing Fees Collected		$ 35,765.00
Total Number of Plumbing Permits Issued	347	
Total Number of Mechanical Fees Collected		$ 2,325.00
Total Number of Mechanical Permits Issued	37	
Total Fees Collected for the Year 2004		$ 465,938.00

Telephone: 508-230-0580 Fax: 508-230-0589 email: mtrivett@easton.ma.us
kgreiner@easton.ma.us
sheath@easton.ma.us

Office Hours: Monday: 8:30 a.m. – 7:30 pm.
Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Town Office Closed to the Public
Phones Answered – Inspections Done
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Susan Heath, Building Department Secretary
D. Mark Trivett, C.B.O., Inspector of Buildings, Zoning Enforcement Officer
Paul DeBaggis, Local Inspector, Zoning Enforcement Officer
Kevin S. Greiner, Electrical Inspector
Robert Govey, Plumbing and Gas Inspector
Margaret (Peg) Horne, Board of Appeals Secretary
John F. Amorim, Assistant Electrical Inspector
Bart Carlson, Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector

Responsibilities:

- Provide highest level of service to protect and support residents and those doing business in Easton through effective enforcement of State Building Codes and Town By-Laws.
- Perform plan reviews and issue permits for building, plumbing, gas, electrical, roofing, siding, replacement windows, pools, signs, wood stoves, HVAC systems, fire protection systems and demolition work.
- Provide prompt, fair and accurate inspections related to each permit.
- Issue certificates of occupancy upon completion of a project.
- Inspect and certify buildings, businesses and occupancies related to annual licensing and code requirements.
- Investigate complaints and zoning violations. Determine zoning compliance.

There were 80 building permits issued for new single-family homes in 2004, a 10% increase from the previous year. There was also a 10% increase in the number of permits issued for residential additions and alterations, from 227 in 2003 to 250 in 2004. The total estimated cost of residential construction in the year 2004 was $30,479,745 as compared to $25,690,331 in 2003.

Commercial construction activity experienced an upswing in 2004 and the estimated cost of construction rose to $12,381,403 from $4,614,709 in 2003. A building permit was also issued in 2004 for renovations and additions at Oliver Ames High School for estimated construction costs of $42,597,000.

Wiring, plumbing, gas and mechanical permit revenues totaled $98,659 in 2004.

Total estimated cost of construction for permits issued in 2004 was $85,469,148, up from $30,257,019 in 2003. The Building Department collected fees in the amount of $465,938 in 2004 as compared to $391,359 in 2003. Permit fees were waived for the Oliver Ames High School and the Habitat for Humanity projects.

Again I would like to thank a dedicated and talented staff and all Town Departments for their assistance and support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Mark Trivett, CBO
Inspector of Buildings
Zoning Enforcement Officer

2004 REPORT OF THE EASTON PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

We hereby submit the following report for the Year 2004 for the Easton Planning & Zoning Board. The Board continues to work responsibly with administration and other town departments in the implementation of the Flexible Development Zoning By Laws adopted at Town Meeting in February 2000. These particular zoning by laws allow Adult Retirement Developments, Open Space Residential Developments, Residential Compounds, Estate Lots and Common Driveways. These creative land planning and growth management tools have assisted with meeting the following community objectives:

- Encouraging more environmentally sensitive development;
- Preserving larger tracts of open space within or adjacent to new developments;
- Preserving Easton's remaining rural character;
- Minimizing long-term operating costs to the town by encouraging private ownership and decreased infrastructure; and
- Increasing public safety through reducing the number of driveways on trafficked roads.

The Planning and Zoning Board, acting as Special Permit Granting Authority, considered a total of fifteen (15) separate Flexible Development applications, four (4) of which were modifications to previously approved Flexible Developments.

One (1) Modification to an approved Adult Retirement Development (Twin Brooks) was submitted and approved. An Adult Retirement Development represents a fiscally responsive type of development which lessens the burden on the Town in terms of providing some essential services.

One (1) Open Space Residential Development application (Mayflower Estates) was considered by the Board, but ultimately withdrawn without prejudice by the applicant. One (1) Modification to an approved Open Space Residential Development (Lone Oak Farms) was submitted and approved. An Open Space Residential Development, an alternative to a conventional subdivision, preserves open space and protects sensitive resources while generally maintaining the same number of houses found in a conventional subdivision.

Five (5) Residential Compound applications were considered; three (3) were approved (Donadelia Terrace; Hidden Acres; and Efron Estates) and two remain pending (Mayflower Estates and Somerville Woods). One (1) Modification to an approved Residential Compound (Efron Estates) was submitted and denied. A Residential Compound consists of a private road and between three and eight lots averaging 60,000 square feet. These lots are larger than the normally required 40,000 square feet. The net result is decreased density and infrastructure cost to the town.

Two (2) Estate Lot applications were considered; one was withdrawn without prejudice (125 Bay Rd.) and the second is pending (a re-submittal for 125 Bay Rd.). Estate Lots allow for more environmentally sensitive development of land.

Three (3) Common Driveway applications were considered; one (1) was approved (North Easton Grammar School) and two (2) remain pending (Mayflower Estates and 456 Depot St.). One Modification to an approved Common Driveway (Twin Brooks) was submitted and approved. Common Driveways promote public safety by helping to reduce the number of access points located on a public way.

In 2004, the Board met a total of twenty-one (21) times on Wednesday nights. The Board also conducted site walks or attended a special meeting at a proposed development five (5) times during the year. In addition to Special Permit applications, the Board addressed Approval Not Required Plans, Preliminary and Definitive Subdivision Plans and Site Plan applications.

A total of twenty (20) "Form A – Approval Not Required" applications were considered. Fifteen (15) plans were endorsed, three (3) plans were denied and two (2) plans remain pending. These plans represent potential building lots which have adequate frontage on an existing way that do not require approval under the Subdivision Control Law (MGL, Chapter 41). Some of these plans created new lots and others combined existing lots into one.

One (1) Preliminary Subdivision Plan was approved by the Board (Border Estates). Four (4) Definitive Subdivision Plans were considered by the Board. Two of these plans were submitted in conjunction with Residential Compound Special Permit applications (Mayflower Estates and Somerville Woods); both remain pending. The remaining two Definitive Subdivisions (Robert Dr. and Blue Heron Run) were approved.

Three (3) Modifications to Definitive Subdivisions were considered. One of these plans was submitted in conjunction with a Modification to an Adult Retirement Development Special Permit application (Twin Brooks) and was approved. Of the remaining two, one (1) was approved (Union Village) and one (1) was denied (Truman Estates).

Ten (10) Site Plan applications were considered by the Board; seven (7) of which were approved. These are: 605 Foundry St.; 690 Washington St.; 21 Bristol Dr.; 171 Washington St.; 736 Washington St.; 167 Washington St.; and 497-501 Foundry St. One (1) was withdrawn (an initial application for 497-501 Foundry St.) and two (2) remain pending (519 Foundry St. and 491 Foundry St.).

Eleven (11) Modifications to approved Site Plans were considered by the Board; nine (9) of which were approved. These are: two for 99-115 Main St.; 690 Washington St.; 11 Center St.; 605 Foundry St.; 229 Depot St.; 690 Depot St.; and 2-4 Washington St. Two (2) remain pending (566 Washington St. and 295 Main St.).

Additional Board and Staff time was spent on the following types of business:

- Public Hearings – Acceptance of Streets
- Public Hearings – Amendments to the Zoning Map and Zoning By Law
- Repetitive Petitions
- Release of Surety for Completion of Roadways and Related Improvements
- Recommendations on Cases to be Heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals
- Commenting on License Renewal Applications Pending Before the Board of Selectmen
- Working with Developers to Complete Unfinished Roads
- Administration and Follow-up Related to the Implementation of Special Permit Approvals
- Meeting with Potential Development Applicants
- Actively Participating in Development Review Committee Meetings
- Monitoring Proposed Smart Growth Legislation Dealing with Land Use / Zoning Reform
- Advocating and Implementing Improvements to the Planning Process

We are most fortunate to have the top quality planner that the Town has provided for the Planning and Zoning Board. Town Planner Marc R. Rousseau, AICP is a dedicated, hardworking professional performing outstanding public service. In addition, the Planning and Zoning Board would like to thank Cheryll-Ann Senior, part-time Recording Secretary, for the excellent administrative support she provides to the Board and Town Planner. Also, the Board expresses its sincere gratitude to Town Administrator Martha L. White for all of her professional assistance, the Board of Selectmen, the various Town Departments, Boards and Commissions for their cooperation and support and most importantly, to the citizens of Easton for their support and cooperation as we attempt to perform our statutory responsibilities.

The Board would like to thank Amanda Varella and Mark Bartlett, both of whom resigned from the Planning & Zoning Board this past year, for their participation. Mr. Bartlett provided the town with ten years of valuable and dedicated service for which we are especially grateful.

In closing, any fellow citizen of Easton wishing to discuss an issue of concern may communicate this matter by calling the Planning & Zoning Board Office at 508-230-0630 or by contacting the Town Planner by E mail a t MROUSSEAU@EASTON.MA.US. T he B oard a lso m aintains a n I nternet p resence o n t he Town of Easton web site.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Kone, Chairman
Colin W. Gillis, Esq., Clerk
Christine M. Santoro, Esq., Member
Walter H. Johnson, R.M.E., Member
Alan L. Weeks, Member
Joseph McParland., Alternate Member

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS

We, the members of the Board of Appeals respectfully submit the following annual report for the year 2004.

The Board of Appeal's responsibilities are to hear applications filed for Special Permits, Variances and Administrative Appeals pursuant to Chapter 40A, Mass. General Laws. Forty-Two (42) petitions, comprised of ten (10) Variances; twenty-nine (29) Special Permits; two (2) Comprehensive Permits; and one (1) Administrative Appeal were received by the Board of Appeals during the year, which in conformity with the law, were duly advertised and copies of notices were given to all Town Boards and mailed to all parties of interest as defined in Section 11, Chapter 40A, Mass. General Laws.

In 2004, Charles King resigned from his position on the Board of Appeals. The Board of Selectmen appointed Thomas Pursley as a full Board Member. Frederick W. Clark Jr. was appointed by the board as an Alternate Member.

The Board of Appeals would like to thank Charles King for his contribution to the Board during his tenure.

	Comprehensive Permit	Variance	Special Permit	Administrative Appeal
Petitions Granted		6	21	
Petitions Denied		3	2	1
Petitions Withdrawn/Dismissed			1	
Chapter 40B	3			
Continued to 2005	3		2	
To Be Heard in 2005		1	3	

The Board wishes to recognize and commend all Town Officials and personnel who provided assistance to the Board during the year.

The Board of Appeals Secretary can be reached at the Town Offices at (508)230-0590 or email mhorne@easton.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Mirrione, Chairman
John Tupper, Vice-Chairman
Thomas Pursley, Clerk
August Gangi
Steven H. Johnson
Christopher Pike, Alternate
Frederick W. Clark Jr., Alternate

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON BOARD OF HEALTH

In compliance with the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, it is our pleasure to herewith submit to you a summary of the work done under the Board of Health for the year 2004.

Mr. Robert Kane was elected to a three-year term at the annual election in April. Robert J. Kane was elected Chairman. Staff included Director of Public Health Wade D. Saucier, R.S., C.H.O., Assistant Health Director Kristin C. Kennedy, R.S., Food Inspector Yvonne Naimey, Administrative Assistant/Burial Agent Jo A. Pilz, Clerk/Burial Agent Teressa M. Wooding, Animal Inspector John D. Melin and Animal Inspector Elizabeth J. DeRosa. Ms. Naimey joined the team in January of this year. Her education and certifications in the field of pool and spa operations and food management will contribute to the office's inspection programs. Mr. Saucier and Ms. Kennedy maintained their education requirements for their state licenses by attending numerous professional education classes throughout the year. Mr. Kane and Mr. Heino attended an annual certification seminar for Boards of Health. This seminar educated the Board members on public health issues and laws.

The Board of Health met 28 times in public meeting forum this year.

The Board of Health responsibilities are numerous, varied and focused on overall community health. Our responsibilities can be viewed on our website. www.easton.ma for your convenience.

Initial steps towards the implementation of a stroke program to aid in the survival of stroke victims were continued this year. The program, a joint effort of the Board of Health, Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center and the Fire Department, will focus on early recognition and response to symptoms of stroke and on life-saving treatment. Finalization of the program and its inception will hopefully take place in the near future.

Public health nursing services were provided by contractual agreement with Health Care Options, Inc., an affiliate of Community Visiting Nurse Agency (CVNA) of Attleboro. Chris Delano, R.N., the town's contact nurse, provided the Board with excellent service and professional advice throughout the year. The cumulative statistics for the 2004 calendar year are as follows: Total Immunizations, 544 residents, including 538 influenza immunizations; Mantoux testing, 3 residents; Lead Level Screening, 0; Health Promotion Clinics, 336 residents including 226 residents for Blood Pressure, 79 for Blood Sugar and 31 for Total Cholesterol Screening; Communicable Disease, 79 investigations; Maternal Child, 0 contacts. The CVNA also served as the vaccine distribution center to a number of providers within the community for the Board of Health. We also provided a public health nurse for one hour each month (every fourth Monday), at the Town Offices, for town residents or employees. The nurse is available for Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar screenings and information regarding your health or the health of your loved ones.

The rabies epizootic still exists in town. Preventative measures to protect your domestic pets are advised. In the spring of 2004, three rabies clinics were held. On April 4, 2004, 54 animals were vaccinated. On April 18, 2004, 37 dogs and 118 cats were vaccinated. On May 2, 2004, 54 dogs were vaccinated and one cat died during the clinic. A total of 263 animals were vaccinated by the program. The State of Massachusetts requires that all dogs and cats be vaccinated for rabies.

The West Nile Virus (WNV) and the Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus (EEEV) are both a public health concern. State wide, for the West Nile Virus, there were 0 human cases, 8 birds, 0 horses and 15 mosquito pools that had tested positive for the virus. At the local level 9 birds were reported, 2 birds were submitted to the state lab and 1 birds tested positive. For the Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus, state wide, there were 39 mosquito pools, 4 human and 7 horses that were confirmed as positive cases. At the local level there was 7 mosquito pools that tested positive for the virus. Both viruses are passed on from the bird

population to the mosquito. The virus is then passed on to the mosquito's next host(s), human or animal, when the female mosquito draws blood for her eggs to develop inside her. As a preventative measure to control the viruses, Bristol County Mosquito Control Project offers an adult mosquito spraying program each spring which continues throughout the summer months. The spraying is done on request by either local residents or city/town officials. The telephone number for Bristol County Mosquito Control is 508-823-5253.

There were 763 permits issued by the Board of Health. The breakdown is as follows: Body Art Establishment, 1; Body Art Practitioner, 2; Camps/Motels/Trailer Parks, 7; Caterers, 4; Dumpsters, 182; Dumpster Service, 12; Food Establishments, 157; Funeral Directors, 3; Disposal System Construction Permits, 236; Disposal Works Installer Permits, 78; Massage Licenses, 15; Mobile Food, 5; Outdoor Sanitary Facilities, 0; Public/Semi-public Swimming Pools, 11; Tanning Facilities ,4; Tobacco Sales Permits, 26; and Transport Offal, 20.

The office logged 15 valid complaints from the general public. If you have any questions, concerns, need advice or information, you may reach our office at 508-230-0620.

The Board appreciates the cooperation of the various town boards and departments and continues to work closely with the Department of Public Health and the Department of Environmental Protection and other agencies of the Commonwealth.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Kane, Chairman
Gil A. Heino
Dr. Roger M. Kligler

EASTON BOARD OF HEALTH

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE EASTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Easton Conservation is given the responsibility, within the Town of Easton, of administering the State Wetlands Protection Act (Mass. General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40 et seq.) and also of administering the Town of Easton Wetlands Protection By-Law (Chapter 227, Code of the Town of Easton) and the regulations promulgated thereunder (310CMR 10.55 et seq. as to the Act; Chapter 503 of the Town Code as to the By-Law). Additionally, the Commission is given primary responsibility for Open Space Planning and Preservation, and further has care, custody and control for the Town of all open space land held for conservation purposes by the Town, numbering several thousand acres of land. Another key area of Commission jurisdiction is that of enforcement, where violations of the Act and/or By-Law are investigated and appropriate proceedings follow.

Although the Commission and its staff have been melded into the Town's Land Use and Permitting Department, the legal functions and authority granted to it remain. During the year 2004, the Commission held 114 public hearings, including 144 continued public hearings, with regard to the permitting process wherein applicants come before the Commission seeking approval for work proposed in areas under the Commission's jurisdiction. This was a substantial increase in the number of new hearings from the previous year, which may reflect a trend as to development and other projects being proposed on land with more wetlands resources, as the number of tracts available for development continues to decrease. Another trend in real estate development which is beginning to show up in our applications is that of the "tear down" – that is, purchase of a home which is then razed and a new home constructed on the site. In 2004, the Commission had 3 such applications, and we expect to see more as time goes on.

Slightly decreasing from 2003 was the number of enforcement actions undertaken. In 2004 the Commission had 7 enforcement actions, down from 9 in 2003. These cases arise when, either through citizen complaint or observation by the Commission or its staff, activity is observed on land for which no permits have been applied, and no Order of Conditions or Permit for Work has issued. Many of these situations arise through a lack of awareness of legal responsibility by individual homeowners. We try to work with these people and, through education, strive to avoid such situations in the future. Where necessary, however, the Commission has many resources available to remedy such violations – civil actions, criminal complaints, injunctive relief, and the imposition of fines, including the Non-Criminal Disposition procedures authorized by Town By-Laws. Generally, however, these matters are handled informally, and resolved relatively easily, with the cooperation of all parties.

The Commission continues its efforts in the acquisition of open space for the benefit of the Town. During 2004, there were five such acquisitions (totaling 57.31 acres), namely:

1. A gift of land from Mark F. Perron and Thomas A. DeCouto, consisting of 8.85 acres, at 19R Possum Run Road, protecting a portion of Poquanticut Brook, its associated wetlands and floodplain, and also which parcel abuts other parcels managed and controlled by the Commission containing Mill Pond.
2. A gift of two parcels from Paul Barg, consisting of 38,861 square feet off of Howard Street, abutting the easterly edge of Wheaton Farm, and which parcels contain wetlands resources. Furthermore the parcels lie within the Hockomock Swamp Area of Critical Environmental Concern and either abut, or are located within, an estimated habitat as shown on the "Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife and Certified Vernal Pools, July 1, 2003, updated".
3. A gift from Richard J. and Joyce L. Harb, consisting of 136,148 square feet of land off of Sheridan Street, protecting a vegetated wetlands and preserving a pine grove for the benefit of the surrounding neighborhood.
4. A purchase from Mary P. Mucci et als.consisting of 11.98 acres, at 2R Foundry Street, which lies within the Hockomock Swamp Area of Critical Environmental Concern and is within an

Estimate Habitat as shown on "Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife and Certified Vernal Pools, July 1, 2003, Updated".

5. Thirteen parcels of land, consisting of a total of 32.46 acres, acquired through transfer from tax title lands, all of which are landlocked parcels (not all abutting each other) which lie within Wheaton Farm Conservation Area, and abut other parcels managed and controlled by the Commission.

During the year 2004, the Commission began a review of its By-Law Regulations, and is in the process of finalizing new regulations relative to the Riverfront Areas, and will include in this process a streamlining of its Regulations generally. Further, there are at present four (4) appeals of By-Law decisions pending before the Superior Court, which should be resolved in the coming year.

In June of 2004, Barry R. DunKley, Vice Chairman, and Patricia E. Somers, were re-appointed to three year terms on the Commission.

The Commission continues to be a resource for advice and information to other Commissions throughout the state. Our By-Law and the Regulations thereunder are frequently requested by other Commissions in Massachusetts as they engage in adopting similar laws in their communities. At the Annual Environmental Conference of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC), John E. Grant was an instructor in a workshop entitled "It's About the Land" focusing on open space land acquisition techniques and strategies. Michael G. Sites, elected Vice President for Education of MACC during 2004, served on several occasions as an Instructor in MACC's Fundamentals Training Program, and was an instructor also at the Annual Conference in a workshop entitled "Be the Hammer, Not the Nail", focusing on political strategies for Conservation Commissioners.

Citizens are invited to make use of the Commission website, www.conservationcommission.org, for much useful information about the workings of the Commission, and links exist to other resources helpful for research and information in the environmental field. We welcome suggestions for further improvements to our website. The Commission may be reached via email, through our website, via phone at (508) 230-0640 or via fax at (508) 230-0639. Commission meetings are generally held on alternate Monday evenings, and our meeting schedule is posted on the website. All meetings are open to the public, except for Executive Sessions, and town residents are always most welcome to attend.

For several months in 2004, the Commission was without the services of its exemplary Agent, Robert G. Dunn, as he underwent back surgery and months of difficult rehabilitation. We are glad to have him back, but also express our gratitude to his temporary replacement, Charles J. Katuska of EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., who continues to fill in as requested by Mr. Dunn. Our Secretary, Janice L. Fowler, is invaluable to the functions of the Commission, and we constantly receive feedback from the public as to her courteous and professional discharge of her responsibilities. Our Associate Member, Jonathan D. Chace, has faithfully attended our scheduled meetings and continues to absorb the functions of the Commission. Further, we express our gratitude to M. Yvonne Gonzalez, Esq., and her colleagues at Brackett & Lucas, Town Counsel, as well as to the Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, and all appointed and elected Boards and Commissions of the Town. We are continually grateful to the citizens of the Town of Easton, for their cooperation and their support as we undertake to responsibly perform the duties they have entrusted to us.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael G. Sites, Chairman
(msites@conservationcommission.org)
Barry R. DunKley, Vice Chairman
(bdunkley@conservationcommision.org)
John E. Grant
(jgrant@conservationcommission.org)
Patricia E. Somers
(psomers@conservationcommission.org)
Patricia A. Haederle
(phaederle@conservationcommission.org)

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT

During 2004 the Town of Easton's Veterans' Services Department assisted over 250 veterans and/or their dependents.

Forty five veterans and/or their dependents received $129,143 in financial assistance for household and medical expenses under Chapter 115 of Massachusetts General Laws. This assistance program is open to low income Easton veterans or their dependents who meet the income and asset guidelines that are established by the Commissioner of Veterans' Services. The veterans' benefits issued by the Town of Easton during 2004 were paid from local appropriation. The State will reimburse the Town for 75% of the veterans' benefits issued. In addition to this Benefits Program, Chapter 115 also provided an Annual Annuity of $1,500 to 31 disabled veterans or their dependents paid by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services. Certain 100% service-connected disabled veterans, Gold Star parents, and Gold Star spouses are eligible for this annuity program. Applications are available at this Veterans' Services Department.

The Veterans Administration estimates that veterans from the Town of Easton received over $ 2,150,000 in federal benefits last year. This office filed 22 new claims last year with the Veterans Administration and those veterans received a total of $ 193,773 in federal benefits.

With the help of Easton's veterans' groups the Department of Veterans' Services was able to insure that any veteran needing transportation for medical care was taken care of at no cost to them or their families.

This office is involved with Easton citizens and school children in Operation Mailcall. The purpose of this organization is to help insure that Easton citizens serving in the Armed Forces in Afghanistan and Iraq know how grateful we are for their service. Packages and letters are sent out on a regular basis.

Other services provided to the veterans of Easton include help in obtaining separation papers, service medals, property tax exemptions, and fuel assistance.

I wish to thank the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, Town Administrator, members of the American Legion Post #7, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #2547, and the residents and businesses of Easton for their continued support of our veterans.

Semper Fi

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Nolan
Director of Veterans' Services

2004 REPORT OF
THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

We may be reached by calling 508-230-3353 or 508-230-0620.

We are the officers in the field for the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture Bureau of Animal Health, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Fisheries and Wildlife and the Environmental Police. At the local level we work closely with the Board of Health, Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Animal Rescue League. We are responsible for educating the public on issues of animal diseases, investigating all animal bites and issuing quarantines, we keep close check on the care and handling of domestic livestock and other domestic animals we have as pets, we check cattle imported from another state or county, we conduct animal census. We work closely with practicing veterinarians and have knowledge and experience with common urban wildlife.

The West Nile Virus is still present. We submitted two birds for testing. Both tested negative for the virus. The Department of Public Health will accept testing of crows or blue jays that have been dead less than twenty-four hours, are intact and free of maggots, flies and ants.

We had sixteen animal bites fifteen dogs and one cat. All were place under ten day quarantine.
We had six dogs, seven cats and three sheep all were placed under a quarantine confinement. These are pets brought to the veterinarian for wounds of unknown origin or pets or livestock that may have been exposed to rabies as a result of exposure to wildlife or a high -risk domestic animal. The confinement can be either forty-five days or six months depending if the animal is rabies vaccinated. This is why a rabies vaccination is extremely important for domestic pets.

Eight animals were submitted to the Virology Division at the State Lab to be tested for rabies. They were one cat, one dog and five skunks. We had one skunk that tested positive for rabies.
Animal census; thirty-nine horses, three ponies, fourteen goats, twenty-five sheep, forty-five beef cattle, twenty-three swine, three rabbits, one hundred twenty-one chickens and five water fowl.

Our wildlife population is growing larger every year. Therefore it is important that we make every effort to discourage them from thinking that our property is a place where food is easily accessible for them. They may look cute or you might feel sorry for them but you do not want them hanging around. They are survivors in the wild.

We would like to thank the members of the Board of Health, Director Wade D. Saucier, Administrative Assistant JoAnne Pilz and Secretary Teressa Wooding. Thanks to the Town Administrator, members of the Board of Selectmen, Town Clerks, Police, Fire and Public Works Departments. Your support and help throughout the year is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

John Melin Animal Inspector
Elizabeth DeRosa Animal Inspector

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Historical Commission continues in its efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect Easton's historic and archeological resources. The Commission works cooperatively with the town's other commissions, boards, and committees to monitor and help control any effects that development and change can bring to Easton's unique historic character. We are available to any citizen for information and guidance regarding the preservation of historic properties, landscapes, and archeological sites in the town of Easton.

During the past year, several members of the Commission were active on other boards and committees of the town. Ed Hands is on the Community Preservation Act Committee, a representative to the Rockery Design Review Committee, and participated on the Site Review, Historic Preservation Plan, and Demolition Permit Review Development Subcommittees. Catherine Adler chairs the Easton No Place for Hate® Committee, and contributes to the Historic Preservation Plan and Demolition Permit Review Development Subcommittees. Greg Galer is a member of the Town Gown Committee between Stonehill College and the town of Easton, and the Rockery Preservation and Demolition Permit Review Development Subcommittees. John Ventresco participated on the Sign By-Law Committee for the town and is a Director of the Friends of Borderland. Karen Cacciapuoti led the formation of the Historic Preservation Plan Subcommittee. Gloria Stafford was on the Board of Trustees of the Ames Free Library. Melanie Deware is a member of the Cemetery Commission and Site Review Subcommittee.

2004 was another active year for the Commission. Of major significance in preserving our historically significant gems in Easton was the passage by the town of a Demolition Permit Review By-Law. This by-law, first presented in 2003 and refined with the help of Easton citizens and the Massachusetts Historical Commission, was created to enhance the Commission's ability to fulfill its charge to preserve the historical character of the town by affording public review of building demolition permit applications to try and avoid destruction of historically significant buildings. The Commission will continue to review and refine the process by which the by-law is implemented throughout 2005.

This year the Commission also finalized a preservation restriction on the North Easton Grammar School, and continued to work with the local American Legion on a plan for the preservation of Harmony Hall. Also, as holders of a historic preservation restriction on the Lincoln Street School, we continued to monitor completion of restriction requirements.

The Easton Historical Commission continued to participate in a multi-phase project to restore the Olmsted Rockery, and assisted in coordinating work on the restoration. Work this year focused on improvements such as resetting stones and landscaping within the Rockery proper. Work on the Rockery progressed with financial assistance from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the town of Easton, and the local Community Preservation Act. The Commission also began to investigate formation of a *Friends of the Rockery* group to research funding possibilities and help to maintain the Rockery long term.

In 2004, the Commission began planning to develop a Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan for the town. Members of the Commission, rather than a consulting firm, will work with the town to complete this ambitious project.

This year in coordination with the Easton Historical Society, updated historic maps of the town were designed and produced through the generosity of Mrs. David Ames, Mr. David Ames, Jr., Mr. William Ames, Mr. and Mrs. MacKenzie Smith, Stonehill College, and North Easton Savings Bank.

The Commission presented awards again this year. Paul Berry was given the Clement Briggs Award for his stewardship in the restoration of the historic H. H. Richardson designed North Easton R. R. Station for the Easton Historical Society. Robert Babineau received the W.L. Chaffin Award for his many years as a member of the Easton Historical Commission and Curator of the Ames Mansion at Borderland State Park.

At the awards ceremony, the Commission hosted a photography contest for Easton residents. We especially thank the Bank of Easton for their consistent annual support in funding the program, and also thank contributing local businesses and residents. The Commission also honored the town's oldest citizen, Anne Tyler. We thank the North Easton Savings Bank for its help in maintaining the tradition of the Boston Post Cane for our oldest citizen.

We want to especially thank Gloria Stafford, who stepped down from the Commission in 2004, after 24 years of dedicated service to the town.

The Commission can be contacted via our web site (www.historicalcommission.org), where additional information can be found. The Chairman can be reached at 508-238-0373

Respectfully Submitted,

Melanie J. L. Deware, Chairman
John J. Ventresco, Vice Chairman
Catherine M. Adler, Secretary
Karen Cacciapuoti
Greg J. Galer
Edmund Hands
Larry Mowatt & Frank Mennino, Associate Members

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

During 2004, the Council on Aging reached out to the 3,386 elderly residents of Easton through our monthly newsletter that was mailed or delivered to each elderly household and through articles in the local newspapers. In addition to mailing the newsletter, the Council provided direct service in transportation, nutrition, recreation, and outreach to our elderly residents.

We provided 7,841 rides for our elderly and disabled residents to medical appointments, grocery stores, shopping malls, local hairdressers and to the community buildings at Parker Terrace and Elise Circle for Council on Aging programs on our lift-equipped shuttle vans. We also connected with the Brockton Area Transit Dial-a-Bat service for transportation to Boston area medical appointments.

During the year, the Council offered a number of health promotion programs. A nurse from Pedi-Care, Inc. provided preventive foot care at twice-monthly clinics and a hearing aide technician from Discount Hearing Aids was available to do hearing screenings and minor hearing-aid repair at scheduled monthly clinics. We were able to continue a twice-weekly exercise program and our weekly Tai-Chi class with funding from Stonehill College and we are truly grateful for their support of our elderly programs. Seniors participated in recreational programs including bridge, ceramics, crafts, cribbage, knitting, line dancing, painting, and quilting. Many traveled with us on day trips and overnight tours. We were fortunate to have many volunteers who helped us during the year, making it possible for us to run a wide variety of programs for our elderly including meals on wheels delivery to our homebound elders and help for our seniors with filing income tax returns.

We are thankful to the many groups and individuals who enriched the lives of our elderly residents through their generous gifts of time and support. The Recreation Commission provided a Summer Barbecue for our elderly residents including entertainment by the Double Eagle Oktoberfest Band. The Easton Lions Club held their annual Eye Mobile health screening and cookout for our elderly residents in September. The staff and children of the Old Colony YMCA Frothingham Family Division invited our seniors to participate in their Thanksgiving Celebration on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Students, family and volunteers from Personal Best Karate continued their Turkey Brigade and delivered hot Thanksgiving Dinners on Thanksgiving Day to a number of our elderly residents. The Easton Women of Today provided lovely gift baskets in December and brightened the holidays of our elderly residents who receive home delivered meals. The Knights of Columbus held their annual Christmas Party for over 200 of our elderly residents. We thank the representatives from the Bristol County Sheriff's Dept, the Easton Police Dept and Easton seniors who were a part of TRIAD and provided safety & wellness programs and also sponsored the Senior Prom for our elderly residents.

Our outreach coordinator made home visits to elders and arranged a variety of home care services for those in need by working with local social services agencies including Old Colony Elderly Services, volunteer groups, and private homemakers. Staff members helped fuel assistance applicants. Seniors, who participated in the Senior Tax-Relief program, provided valuable help to the town and received a property tax credit for their hours of service.

We would like to thank the Easton Housing Authority for the use of their community buildings for our Council on Aging programs, although we look forward to the day when Easton has a senior center for its elderly residents. During this past year, the Task Force for Senior Center Development approached Stonehill College to request use of the land on the westerly side of Washington Street, just south of the Clock Farm, for construction of a senior center for Easton's elderly residents and a theatre to meet the needs of the Stonehill College community as well as other theatre groups in the area. Two nonprofits, Easton Senior Center Incorporated and Easton Theatre Corporation, were established. During the coming year the

nonprofits will be recruiting board members and planning for the capital campaigns to raise construction funds for the facilities.

We extend our appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and the residents of Easton for their continued support of our elderly services and programs and look forward to working with town officials, Easton Senior Center, Inc., and the community in building a Senior Center that will meet the needs of our elderly residents.

Respectfully submitted:
Francis Spillane, Chairman
Phyllis Kiessling, Vice-chairman
Elizabeth Verity, Secretary
Marie Healey
Carl Palm
Ethel Pomerleau
Nicolina Previti
Dolores Kent, Director

2004 REPORT OF
THE CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commission can be reach by calling the Town Clerk at 508-230-0531.

The Cemetery Commission is responsible for ensuring that our Town-owned cemeteries are maintained for our future generations. We try with the funds we have to clean, straighten, reset or replace monuments where needed. We work with the Town Clerk's office in following up on the veterans buried in our Easton Cemeteries. We would like to thank the DPW crew that did an excellent job in cleaning and mowing the town owned cemeteries.

We express our appreciation to all the town officials and the citizens of Easton for their continuous support which enables us to maintain the care of our historic cemeteries.

Raymond Phillips' term expired this year, his knowledge of cemeteries will be missed. We welcome Melanie Deware as our new member.

We reset two monuments at the Elijah Howard Cemetery. Monuments were straightened and reset, where needed at the John Seelee, Thomas Keith and William Dean cemeteries.

We have been working with Dale H. Cook, Coordinator with the Association for Gravestones Studies and the UsGenWeb Tombstone Transcription Project. In March of 2004, Easton was the first Bristol County town to be put on line within USGenWeb.Easton.MA web site
www.rootsweb.com/~maceasto/cemeteries.html

If you are interested in visiting our old historic cemeteries, we would recommend this as a great download. All the cemeteries in Easton are photo listed with their locations

Respectfully submitted,

John Melin, Chairman
John Howard
Melanie Deware

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WORLD WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Easton:

Responsibility – the World War Memorial Committee administers the World War Memorial Scholarship fund in honor and in memory of the veterans of the United States Armed Forces. For future information, please contact the Town Administrator's Office and you will be referred to the member of the Committee most familiar with your concern.

The Committee held the annual meeting on May 11, 2004, in the guidance office of the Oliver Ames High School, to evaluate the applications for scholarships.

On the odd numbered years, an academic scholarship is awarded to a student attending an accredited college. The year 2003 scholarship was awarded to Chris Ivanosky who will be attending the University of Rhode Island. The award will be paid annually, subject to evidence of successful academic achievement. The 2003 scholarship award to Chris Ivanosky will be continued.

One vocational grant was awarded to a student pursuing a course of study that requires special books, tools and other supplies. The recipient for the year 2004 was Janet Zamiara who will attend Johnson & Wales.

We offer our thanks to Bill Sullivan and Elayne Mahoney for their interest, advice and assistance and to John Nunes for administering the scholarship fund.

The Committee members have agreed that they would like to increase the amount of the academic award and request that donations be made in honor of our Veterans and for the benefit of the students of Oliver Ames High School.

Thank you to the members of the Committee and congratulations to the recipients.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Hurley, Chairman	Chairman, School Committee
John Melin	Chairman, Board of Selectmen
Robert McLaughlin	Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars
Permanent Members	Commander, American Legion

2004 REPORT OF
THE AMES FREE LIBRARY – EASTON'S PUBLIC LIBRARY

2003 93,185* items loaned
2004 99,873 items loaned

* Libraries were instructed to count circulations differently beginning in 2004. Thus, the previous figure for 2003 was higher but has now been lowered because of a different counting method.

Museum passes circulated 327 times. Each pass admits four persons either free or at minimal cost to the following museums: Boston Children's Museum, Museum of Science, Museum of Fine Arts, Fuller Craft Museum, Plimoth Plantation, Roger Williams Park Zoo, Children's Museum in Easton, and South Shore Natural Science Center. These passes are partially paid for by the Easton Lion's Club and the Friend's of the Ames Free Library. The donations by these groups are truly appreciated by all residents.

Usage of materials and services at the Ames Free Library continues to grow despite less than ideal physical conditions.

Spring saw the rebuilding of the tower on the H.H. Richardson building. In addition, the façade was re-pointed and cleaned. These were originally planned for Phase Two of the building project but conditions were so dangerous that they could not be postponed until a later time. The tower is now uplit at night making it stand out against the night sky.

Progress continues on the building plans. The court has said to go ahead with the construction of the addition. Final estimates are imminent and bids will be sought after the first of the year. This is eagerly awaited after years of litigation delays. The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners has extended the library construction grant for two more years.

In order to keep Easton residents informed about the library, a newsletter is mailed to every household four times a year. ALL THE NEWS is created by library staff members and is funded by the Fanny Holt Ames bequest.

As a result of a legal decision against the Music Industry for price fixing, the Attorney General ruled that the industry had to donate music CD's to libraries across the Commonwealth. This library received four hundred ninety-nine titles. Many were duplicates and they will be sold. Those that were kept are being added to the collection at a few dozen a month.

Regular story hours continue to be popular at both the Main Library and the Branch. These story hours are targeted at children as young as six months and also those up to age six years. Craft sessions based on the stories told follow the sessions for older children.

At least once a month special events are held for children and families. These puppet Shows, magicians, musical presentations, and illustrated stories are made possible through the Stonehill College Enrichment Fund.

The summer reading program continues to attract more participants every year. This year 265 children completed the program.

Local author Chet Raymo spoke at the Main Library and discussed his book, THE PATH. In the book he chronicled his daily walk from his home on Main Street to his office at Stonehill College. One reference in his book talks about flora and fauna volumes located at the Ames Free Library and these volumes were on display for his talk. More than sixty-five people were in attendance.

A federal grant was received for a program called, "Mother Goose Asks Why?" This program is for parents to learn how to help their children with their homework. Several sessions were held because the response was so great. The Easton Moms Club wants to continue the program and will pay for the kits. This program targets younger children, but parents of older children, junior high school age, have asked for a similar program. The Reference staff have been providing this program.

"Booklover's of Easton" is a cable TV program put on by the library with Lauren Schwartz interviewing and Bill Ames producing. All residents are invited to talk about their favorite book, books, or authors for about forty minutes once a week. The programs are taped at the cable TV station in Easton. Assistant Director Madeline Holt schedules the participants.

A long time employee, Willa Richards Grant retired in April after almost fourteen years of employment. She was succeeded by Amy Landolfi.

In the month of May, Sandy Stapczynski began a salary and benefit survey for the library. By December it was completed. It is hoped the results can be implemented over the next two years.

Karen Hayes, a local resident, organized two very successful book sales. The first was for all types of books and was held at the Branch June twelfth. It was very successful raising over a thousand dollars. The second sale was December fourth and was for children's books only at the Main Library.

The Easton Garden Club has been planting four tubs of flowers in front of the library. Flowers and greens are changed seasonally and are appreciated by everyone.

In September under the Town's Property Tax Relief Program Edward Lomer was able to scrape and paint the front wooden steps. This was needed for a long time and makes the entrance look more attractive.

Many thanks go to the members of the Board of Directors who work tirelessly for the library throughout the year. The hours they devote to this library are immeasurable. Other Town Departments also assist the library to provide services and to them we are most appreciative. The Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and Town Administrator have also been helpful and we thank them.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annalee Bundy
Executive Director

Members of the Board of Directors
Donna Richman, President
Gerard Marsan, Vice President
Hazel Varella, Secretary
William M. Ames
Kathleen Boyle
Alice McCarthy
Kevin Paicos
Gloria Stafford
James S. Thomas
Joseph Murphy, Ex Officio, Treasurer
Edwin C. White, Ex Officio

2004 REPORT OF
THE AMES TRUST FUND

Following is a summary of the Ames Trust Funds held for the benefit of the schools and highways of the Town of Easton as of December 31, 2004, including estimates of the income to be distributed to the Town during 2005. Unfortunately it appears that once again the estimates of income available for distribution in 2005 will be less than the income actually paid to the Town in the previous year from all three funds. While dividend income from common stocks held in the portfolios of the funds has actually held up quite well in spite of the recession of the past couple of years, the major source of the income generated from these funds is interest from fixed income securities primarily U.S. Treasury bonds and notes. As you know, the Federal Reserve during the past couple of years has lowered interest rates drastically in an effort to curb the recession. Thus when it becomes necessary to reinvest the proceeds from matured bonds the current rates are often as much as 200 basis points (2%) less than the rate of the matured fixed income security. At the moment the end of this trend is not in sight. The Trustees realize that this decline in distributable income comes at an especially difficult time with declines in tax revenue as well as reductions in local aid from the Commonwealth. Therefore the Trustees are working with their investment advisors to explore means of increasing the income from the Trust Funds without endangering the security of the principal.

	Book Value	12/31/04 Market Value	2004 Income Paid to Town	2005 Estimate Income to Town
Highways Fund	$1,189,778.25	$5,711,131.88	$157,992.79	$145,000.00
Highways Perm. Fund	181,792.57	238,772.49	4,210.87	4,200.00
Schools Fund	3,416,120.68	4,827,079.61	98,103.32	98,000.00

Detailed accounts for the three funds for the year ended December 31, 2004 will be provided shortly.

Respectfully submitted,

James S. Thomas
Trustee

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE OAKES AMES MEMORIAL HALL ASSOCIATION

Income

Donors	$ 300.00
Rental Income	9,578.00
Investment account	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	987.04
Total income	**$13,865.04**

Expenses

Fees: Rental Agent and Custodian		$4,420.00
Insurance- workmen's comp		492.00
Utilities:		
	Heating Oil	2,985.38
	Furnace Service	725.00
	Massachusetts Electric	1,821.00
	Boston Gas	546.10
	Town of Easton- Water (with sprinkler fee)	721.00
	Verizon- 238-9995,9081	1,288.00
	Total utilities	$8086.48
Fire Safety		
	Inspect fire extinguishers	51.50
	Total fire safety	$51.50
Plumbing		
	Total plumbing	$26.70
Other Expenses		
	Hall "A" refinish floor	1,200.00
	3 Chandeliers downstairs hallway	1,262.00
	Rug cleaning (1)	135.00
	Exterior stone step repair	2,910.00
	Loggia double door hardware	711.00
	Miscellaneous	750.00
	Total other	$5,968.00
Total Expense		**$14,045.04**
2004 net operating deficit of		**<$180.00>**

The Hall is a 501 (c) (3) Massachusetts Corporation managed by the Board of Trustees whose responsibility is to maintain the building as a resource for public gatherings.
Contact individual is Norma Page, the rental agent, telephone 238-9995.
Lowered income from 2003 was offset by lower fee expenses for a small net overall deficit of $180.00 for 2004. Hall usage continues at a steady rate and again we wish to thank the Easton Lions and the Easton Garden Club for their continued support of this National Historic Landmark Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick L. Ames, President

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL AREA AGENCY ON AGING

The Delegate and Alternate to the Old Colony Planning Council Area Agency on Aging (OCPC-AAA) Advisory Committee are pleased to present this report of the Area Agency on Aging activities for federal fiscal year 2004.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT:
The OCPC-AAA is responsible for planning, coordinating and funding elder services under the Older Americans Act in the 23 community region served by the program. The OCPC-AAA, in conjunction with input form the 23 community Advisory Committee, has focused its efforts on developing a network of services and programs to serve the unmet needs of elders from throughout the region. In fiscal year 2004, the OCPC-AAA provided grant funding to various service provider agencies for the following types of program and services:

*Mental Health Services
*Personal Care & Respite
*Transportation
*Services for Disabled Elders
*Legal Services
*Emergency Intervention Service
*Congregate and Home Delivered Meals
*Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

The OCPC-AAA Advisory Committee Delegates and Alternates play a key role in the development and support of elder services and programs in the region. Committee members from each of the 23 communities assist the AAA in assessing elder needs in the region, recommending funding priorities, and recommending sub-grantee funding awards to the Planning Council. The support and cooperation of the Delegates and Alternates and their respective communities is acknowledged with gratitude by the Old Colony Planning Council Area Agency on Aging. The OCPC-AAA also wishes to extend sincere thanks to Committee Chairwoman Diane Cunningham of Wareham and Vice-Chairwoman Mary Willis of Pembroke for their leadership during the past fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Kiessling, Delegate
Marie Healey, Alternate

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

As your representatives to the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC), we are pleased to present this report on behalf of the Council for 2004.

The Old Colony Planning Council was established in 1967 by state statute and is authorized to prepare plans for the physical, social and economic development of the fifteen-member community region. OCPC is designated as: an Economic Development District by the U.S. Department of Commerce for the coordination of economic development activities within the OCPC District: an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to plan, manage and coordinate elder services in a twenty-three community service area; and, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to plan and program transportation and transit improvements for the region. We are proud that the Old Colony Planning Council is the only regional council in New England to hold all of these official designations at the same time.

In addition to the above-designated responsibilities, the Council is concerned with a wide variety of area-wide and inter-municipal concerns as they pertain to the development of the Planning District. The Council also assists its member municipalities with technical planning assistance, grant application preparation assistance and with information on local and regional trends by maintaining current socioeconomic information.

This past year, the Council completed work on the Avon, Abington, Hanson, Pembroke, West Bridgewater and Whitman Executive Order 418 Community Development Plans; the Whitman Master Plan; Abington, Halifax and Kingston Zoning Map revisions; Vehicle and Speed Classification Studies throughout the region; OCPC 2004 DataBook; Journey to Work Study; Updated Road Inventory files for our communities; Commuter Rail Station and Park and Ride Lots Utilization Study; Old Colony 2004 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy; BAT FY 2004 Ridership Analysis; BAT Title VI Report; Route 106 Traffic Study; numerous Intersection Studies and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Council initiated work on the Area Agency on Aging Four Year Plan. During the past year, the Council conducted traffic counts at approximately 200 locations throughout the region. The Council also continued to work on Route 28 Corridor Study (Avon/Randolph town line to Bridgewater/Middleborough town line) and the Local/Regional Disaster Mitigation Plan for the OCPC Region. All of the OCPC's Communities participated in a Smart Growth Audit Sponsored by Vision 2020 and funded by NSTAR. The Council also co-authored with MAPC the Peer Review for the Proposed Village Center Plan at the South Weymouth Naval Air Station.

Each member community of the Council is represented by one delegate and one alternate member. The Council members establish policy, develop the work program, and employ and oversee the activities of the professional staff. The Council meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the OCPC offices located at 70 School Street, Brockton, MA. In 2004, the Council elected Robert Overholtzer of Hanson as President of OCPC; Jeanmarie Kent Joyce of Easton as Council Treasurer; and, Joseph P. Landolfi of Stoughton as Council Secretary. Pasquale Ciaramella serves as Executive Director of the Council.

The Council gratefully acknowledges the generous support and cooperation of its member communities and the participation and involvement of the many individuals who participate as members of committees. Special thanks are extended to Joint Transportation Committee Chair Noreen O'Toole; Comprehensive Economic Development Committee Chair Salvador A. Pina; and, the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Committee Chair Diane Cunningham, for their commitment, dedication and leadership during the year. The Council also recognizes the work of local boards and commissions and the government agencies, public and private institutions and individuals who assisted the Council in its efforts.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanmarie Kent Joyce, Delegate
Stephen J. Donahue, Alternate
Matthew Striggles, Delegate At-Large

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Easton:

The September 1998 Special Town Meeting voted to establish the Municipal Building Committee. The powers and duties of this committee are to serve as a building committee for all school and government building projects valued at $50,000 or more, including changes to existing buildings and all new buildings; to conduct inspections of all school and government buildings and to assist the DPW Director with the preparation of annual and 5-year capital improvement and maintenance plans.

In 2004, the Committee reorganized with Robert E. Langway, Jr. as Chairman, Ralph Vatalaro, Vice Chairman and Dawn Boynton, Secretary. Regular monthly meetings were held on the third Tuesday in Room C201 of the F.L.O. School at 5:30 pm and additional meetings were added, as needed, on the first Tuesday of the month. With the commencement of construction activities at OAHS, Committee meetings are now held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the OAHS Guidance Office. Throughout the year, the Committee devoted most of its attention to the final design phase and public bidding phase of the OAHS and EJHS construction projects. Phase I of the OAHS construction project broke ground in October and is well underway. Round two of bidding for the EJHS is set for Spring, 2005 following a reauthorization of funding for the project. Both remain scheduled for completion in 2007. The Committee sponsored a public information forum at OAHS in January, 2004 concerning the projects and addressed many Town Boards and Committees regarding the project throughout the year. In addition, the Committee has worked with the DPW Director on an ongoing basis to develop capital improvement and maintenance plans for all Town buildings.

In 2005, the Committee will continue to fulfill its mandate to oversee the school construction projects and will strive to ensure that the projects are run smoothly, safely, on-time and within budget. Regular meetings will continue to be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 5:30 pm in the OAHS Guidance Office and Agendas will be posted at Town Hall. Visitors are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Langway, Jr., Chairman
Dawn Boynton, Secretary
Marc Brockman
Ken Carlson
Wally Fulcher
Henry Narsasian
Ralph Vatalaro, Vice Chairman

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

We are pleased to submit this report of the Community Preservation Committee of the Town of Easton.

CPA Committee The Town of Easton's CPA Committee is comprised of four citizens "at large" and five members selected from existing Town boards and committees. The "citizen-members" include Michael Boyle, Capital Improvements Planning Committee member and former FinCom member; Patricia Hunt, former selectwoman and former FinCom member; James D. Mullen, Jr., Water Advisory Commission member, former selectman and former FinCom member; and Avery Lee Williams, townsperson active in many community organizations. John Grant serves on the committee for the Easton Conservation Commission; Edmund Hands serves for the Easton Historical Commission; Christopher Kone, chairman of the Easton Planning and Zoning Board, serves for the PZB; Michael Malloy serves for the Easton Housing Authority; and Frank Spillane was appointed since our last report to serve for the Recreation Commission. We want to welcome Frank to the Committee. This year, Creig Muscato resigned as a citizen appointee. We want to thank Creig for his service and his dedication to community preservation and recreation. In his place, Lee Williams was appointed. Lee has been attending most of our meetings since the Committee was formed; we want to welcome Lee to the Committee.

The primary purpose of the CPA Committee is to review preservation options and make recommendations to Town Meeting for the expenditure of CPA funds. We meet on a monthly basis at the Town Offices and more often, as needed. We hold one public hearing each year and report to the Town Meeting on an annual basis. All CPA expenditures must be approved by Town Meeting. This past year, Town Meeting approved additional funding for the Frederick Law Olmstead Rockery Restoration Project and funding for a "Housing Needs Survey". A Historic Resources Survey was also to be funded with CPA funds; however, the Historic Commission decided to undertake that important project "in-house".

Background In the spring of 2001, the Voters of Easton adopted the Community Preservation Act (CPA). The CPA was enacted by the legislature to provide a dedicated funding stream for the preservation of open space (including recreation), historic resources and community housing. At that time, statistics were showing that open space in Massachusetts was being developed at a rate of 44 acres per day and our legislators realized that funding would be needed to preserve our fast-disappearing open spaces, which spaces serve or could serve many important community purposes: water supply protection; scenic and historic vistas; farming; recreation fields; historic resources; affordable housing. CPA funding is provided through a local real estate tax surcharge and a statewide registry of deeds surcharge. The state funds are distributed to participating communities as matching funds. The state match can be as much as 100% of the total amount raised by a community, depending upon how much revenue is collected by the state and how many communities are participating. Since we last reported to you, an additional 14 communities have adopted the CPA; there are now 75 CPA communities. 16 additional communities have the adoption of the CPA on upcoming election ballots. As time goes by, more and more communities are adopting the CPA to become eligible for the state matching funds.

State matching funds are distributed to the CPA communities in October of each year and are based upon the amounts a community collects through its CPA surcharge the preceding year. Easton's surcharge has two exemptions: the first $100,000 of value of each residence and an exemption for property owned by lower income persons. Thus far, there have been three awards of state matching funds and they have all resulted in matches of 100%. The first, in October of 2002, resulted in Easton's receipt of $420,468. The second round in October of 2003 resulted in the Town's receipt of $484,857. The third, in October of 2004, resulted in the receipt of $560,666. That is a total of $1,465,991 in state matching funds. So, for every dollar that we have raised, we've received a dollar from the state – a 100% return on our investment.

FY 2002 is the first year that Easton collected CPA funds. Through December 31, 2004, Easton has collected $3,265,524, with $1,465,991 of those funds from state matching funds. 10% of that total must be

reserved for or spent on each of the three community preservation purposes: historic preservation; community housing; and open space preservation. The balance of CPA funds are not reserved for any particular community preservation purpose, but must be spent for community preservation projects. The money cannot be spent on ordinary Town expenditures, for example – maintenance. CPA funds can only be spent as the CPA law states and upon a favorable recommendation of the CPA Committee and Town Meeting approval.

The Town's approved CPA projects and ideas for future projects are as follows.

Community Housing: The Town Meeting has, thus far, approved CPA funds for the May Institute Project for developmentally disabled young adults and funds for an Affordable Housing Plan. We are hoping that the Affordable Housing Plan will help to provide a blueprint for CPA housing projects as the Open Space and Recreation Plan does for those projects. We are pleased that the Town has reconstituted and revitalized the Housing Partnership and have had the pleasure of meeting several times with the HP to discuss the Town's affordable housing needs and what the Town can do to address those needs. We are learning that there are affordable housing options in Easton; however, some are disappearing like our open space is disappearing. For example, how often are we now seeing the affordable homes down the street being sold only to be demolished and replaced by much larger homes no longer in the affordable category? Some of these smaller, older period homes that are being torn down are part of Easton's community history and warrant preservation. We would like to find a way to save some of these homes before they disappear, for both historic and affordable housing purposes. The Historic Commission's demolition-delay bylaw, recently approved by Town Meeting, may provide some time to allow for such options. We have asked that efforts to preserve such housing be included in the "Affordable Housing Plan".

Historic Resources: Town Meeting has provided $100,000 for the restoration of the Olmstead Rockery, which funds were then leveraged to obtain an additional $42,500 in state matching funds from the Mass. Historic Commission. We look forward to the Historic Commission's Historic Resources Survey and their future projects for CPA funding.

Open Space and Recreation: As explained to Town Meeting last year, the committee anticipates the major expenditures from CPA funds to be in land acquisition for Open Space and Recreation. The Committee believes that if we follow the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan, created through the efforts of the Conservation Commission and the Recreation Commission, the Town's long-term needs would be met with regard to acquiring land for protection of watershed areas; for preservation of the Town's major scenic vistas and historic landscapes; to connect important wildlife habitat, existing open spaces and recreation areas; and to accommodate the community's current and future passive and active recreation needs. The Plan recommends a number of key land acquisitions. The CPA Committee believes that five of those land acquisitions should be given priority. We'd like to do them all, but realize that land acquisitions are expensive and that we will need to concentrate on the priority parcels. We are hopeful that CPA funds will be sufficient to do this. Each of the five parcels is large; four are more than 100 acres in size. Of the five parcels, two contain major scenic and historic landscapes and vistas, such as if they were lost to development, their loss would affect the character of the Town. All the parcels have recreational value, three have more recreation potential than the others and one has great potential for recreational fields. Each would be an important and valuable acquisition. At this time, the landowners are not ready to sell, although some have indicated a willingness to work with the Town when the time comes. The Town has a right of first refusal on three of the parcels. The Committee is continuing to look at other land acquisitions as they arise, but must compare those potential acquisitions with the "priority parcels" of "the Plan". If we spend CPA funds on a project with less value or priority, we may not have the funds when we need them for the priority parcels. CPA funding is the only way that we are going to have the ability to accomplish these acquisitions. And if we do not acquire them when the time comes - that will be it. There will be no second chances.

As time goes by, more and more land is developed and there is less land available for Town and public use. Even when it is available, it may not be suitable for a particular use, such as a playing field. We have come to what may be an obvious conclusion regarding open space and recreation: that it would be in the best interest of the Town to require its officials to follow a ***"no net loss" policy.*** In other words, Town Officials

should not exacerbate the need for open space or fields by relinquishing the lands and fields that we already have. Existing open spaces and playing fields are valuable resources that belong to the Townspeople.

There are two websites that contain information on the Community Preservation Act. One is the website of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs at www.state.ma.us/envir and the other is at www.communitypreservation.org. Easton's CPA Committee is also listed on the Town's website at www.easton.ma.us. The CPA Committee can be reached through the Easton Town Offices, 136 Elm St. Easton, MA 02356.

In closing, we want to thank Town Administrator Martha White and the Town Accountant Wendy Nightingale for their assistance. Primarily, appreciation is due to the people of Easton for their foresight in passing the Community Preservation Act and for their continued support of its goals.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Hunt, Chair, for the Committee
James D. Mullen, Jr., Vice Chair
John Grant, Clerk
Michael Boyle
Edmund Hands
Christopher Kone
Michael Malloy
Frank Spillane
Avery Lee Williams

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL

On June 30, 2004 the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project completed forty-five years of service to the cities and towns of Bristol County.

The mosquito control project works year-round in its efforts to reduce mosquito breeding sites and adult mosquito populations. The Project uses integrated pest management measures in its never-ending fight against mosquitoes.

Spring and Summer Larviciding - To reduce the emergence of adult mosquitoes in areas where mosquito larvae are present.

Catch Basin Treatment - To stop mosquito emergence from rain-filled catch basins and storm drains.

Light Trapping Program - To monitor mosquito populations as to their type and number, useful to determine which areas have nuisance populations of mosquitoes and need control.

Mosquito Viral Surveillance – Cooperative program with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to monitor for Eastern Equine Encephalitis, West Nile Virus and Highlands Jay in the adult mosquito populations.

Water Management - A year round endeavor to clean and construct mosquito drainage ditches in lowland swamps to reduce breeding sites for mosquito larvae.

It is the policy of the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project to use pesticides that are compatible with its integrated pest management program to reduce environmental impact. We use as many of the biological insecticides that are practical with the environmental conditions present in the New England area. We are currently using two different formulations of bacterial larvicides, VectoLex™ and B.T.I.-based products, in our larval control program.

All of our spray equipment is calibrated periodically in order to meet label requirements adequate to reduce mosquito populations. The operators of our spray equipment are state licensed pesticide applicators that are required to attend classes on pesticide safety on a yearly basis.

During the time period January 1, 2004 – December 31, 2004 the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project in Easton:

- Sprayed over 15,500 acres
- Treated 60.4 acres in 63 locations with BTI for mosquito larvae
- Received 655 requests for spraying
- Treated 362 catch basins
- Cleared and reclaimed 2,588 feet of brush
- Performed 1,511 feet of ditch maintenance with power equipment

In a cooperative program with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project has been trapping mosquitoes throughout Bristol County. As of October 31, 2004, there was one isolate of West Nile Virus, seventeen isolates of Eastern Equine Encephalitis and four isolates of Highlands Jay Virus from mosquitoes. There were no equine or human cases of WNV or EEE in Bristol County during the 2004 mosquito season.

and look forward to serving them in the coming year. Should anyone have a question as to what might be done to relieve a mosquito problem in their area, whether it is water management work, treatment of a breeding site, or just having an area checked, please feel free to call our office.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne N. Andrews, Superintendent

Commissioners:
Gordon W. Wolfe, Chairman
William L. Glass, M.D.
Arthur F. Tobin
Daniel B. Amorim
Gregory D. Dorrance

2004 REPORT OF
THE BORDERLAND STATE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Borderland State Park Advisory Council (BSPAC) held three meetings in 2004, March, June and September. An extensive number of letters and memos were sent to State Senators, State Representatives, Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and other administrators within the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) by the BSPAC concerning matters at Borderland. These matters were related to staffing, maintenance and funding the park.

Staffing at Borderland remains at four to cover 77 hours of park operations each week as well as collecting parking fees, general maintenance, administration, safety patrolling, opening and closing a 1700+acre park.

The park collected $87,770.00 in parking fees and passes for the year ending July 2004, all of which went into State General Fund, not Borderland. Park attendance is up over 2003. The Council would like to see the laws changes so that the park could have more revenue retention of fees paid by the park users.

The Council has urged the DCR for years to put the Smith farmhouse in the state curator program and to that end they contracted to have a survey done on the Smith farmhouse. They also included the Ames Mansion and the Wilber farmhouse in the survey as well. The Council received copies of the extensive surveys at the September meeting and made suggestions as to the first priorities to be addressed at each location.

A "Carry Out What You Carry In" policy was suggested by the Council and is being slowly introduced to various areas of the park with success.

The park budgets for 2004/5 has been level funded again even though heating and fuel costs have increased.

The Council discussed the impact on the park of the proposed development of Rattlesnake Hill in Sharon and supports its purchase by the Town of Sharon and the EOEA as an addition to Borderland State Park.

The Council appreciates the continued support of the park activities by the town personnel, Friends of Borderland, the Easton Garden Club, the School Department, members of the General Court, Boy Scouts and other interested town's people.

If you have any questions regarding the park, feel free to contact the Chairman (508-543-5260) or Borderland State Park (508-238-6566).

Respectfully submitted,

William O. Hocking, Jr., Chairman (Foxboro)
Paul Berry, Easton Historical Society
John J. Kent, Easton Representative
John Ventresco, Friends of Borderland

2004 REPORT OF
THE EASTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Easton Cultural Council distributes funds from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) through the MCC's Local Cultural Council Program. The MCC distributes funds to each LCC based on a local aid formula devised by the state. The formula takes into account population and property values, and is weighted to give larger distributions to poorer communities.

The purpose of the Easton Cultural Council (ECC) is to support public programs that promote access, education, diversity, and excellence in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences. The Council supports programs that directly affect the residents of Easton; achieve the greatest community benefit; and cultivate the arts through participation and appreciation. The ECC endeavors to make cultural opportunities accessible to all segments of the population.

Applications received by the Easton Cultural Council in 2004 were reviewed on a variety of criteria. Preference was given to Easton-based organizations and local artists/humanists for projects that will benefit the Easton community. Applicants based outside of Easton were expected to collaborate with or secure the sponsorship of an Easton organization, institution, or individual. Evidence of collaboration or sponsorship, in the form of a letter from the Easton entity, was requested to accompany the application.

The Easton Cultural Council received 21 applications for funds in 2004 and made awards to the following 14 organizations:

Brockton Symphony Orchestra	Tickets to the Symphony	Music
Center Elementary School	Mad About Math (Keith Johnson)	
	Science	$300
Easton Children's Museum, Inc.	Outdoor Learning Center Dinosaur Sculpture Exhibit	
	Science	$300
Easton Junior High School PAC	EJHS - "Daddy King," Sumner McClain	
	Humanities	$400
Easton No Place for Hate	Family Salsa Night in Easton	Dance
Easton Shoveltown Players	Disney's "Beauty and the Beast"	
	Theater	$250
F.L. Olmsted School	MythMasters: Greek Mythology Tales	
	Storytelling	$300
Fuller Museum of Art	Exhibitions and Educational Programs	Crafts
Industrial Theatre, Inc.	Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night"	
	Theater	$500
Jubilate Chorale	2004-'05 Concert Series	Music
Moreau Hall Elementary School	Masked Marvels and Wondertales	
	Storytelling	$400
Parkview Elementary School PAC	Leland Faulkner, World of Wonder	
	Storytelling	$400
Star Players of Bristol County, Inc.	Summer Musical/Intern Program 2005	
	Theater	$500
Stonehill College	Concert Series	Music

Many of the Council's members reached their term limits in 2004 leaving just two members. A call for members in the summer of 2004 saw nine Easton residents step forward to fill vacancies. The Selectman appointed all nine individuals to join the two continuing council members. The current members of the council would like to thank those members whose terms expired in 2004 for their time and dedication to the Easton Cultural Council. They were: Richard Capobianco, Gino Del Guercio, William MacMullen, Susan Perdigao Harrington, and Gary Twiraga.

The current members of the Easton Cultural council and their terms are:

David A. Olson, Chair	2005
Nancy Arns, Co-Chair	2005
Wanda Azevedo, Secretary	2006
Sharyn Katz, Treasurer	2006
Anne-Marie Burke	2006
Susan Chapman	2006
Lauri Silva Costa	2006
Judy Halperin	2006
Greg Maniero	2006
Pauline Phinney	2006
Marion Wingfield	2006

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SERVICES GROUP

The Southeastern Regional Services Group has enjoyed another productive year providing valuable services to its seventeen member communities.

With the announcement in January of Regional Administrator Catherine Salisbury's intention to retire, much of the first half of the year was spent redefining a job description, recruiting and interviewing suitable candidates, and finalizing an employment agreement for the position. In May, Lara Ramey Thomas was offered and accepted the position. She began her duties in August.

This year there was also a great deal of activity on a new initiative for SERSG – a special project involving the City of Taunton and Towns of Easton, Raynham and West Bridgewater named the Pipeline Project. The project was initiated as a response to Aquaria Water's plans to build a desalinization plant in Dighton with a 16 mile long 20-inch diameter pipeline connecting the plant to the City of Brockton which has been in need of a supplemental supply of water for some time. Since Aquaria proposed to locate a large portion of the pipeline in the public ways in Taunton, Raynham, Easton and West Bridgewater, the municipalities are understandably concerned about overseeing that the pipeline is installed in the public roadways in accordance with the existing Street Opening Bylaw and in a way that will minimize impact to communities, especially since this is not a Public Utility but rather a private company seeking to make a profit from this project by using the public ways to conduct their business. The communities also want to sure that there is agreement among all parties involved regarding responsibility for maintenance.

A Supplemental Agreement was developed by the Regional Administrator and signed by the four involved municipalities and a Pipeline Committee composed of representatives from each municipality began meeting every other week on the project. Later in the year a finance and administration agreement between SERSG and Aquaria was developed whereby Aquaria would provide funding for SERSG to hire an engineering firm to review the pipeline route and operations plans, work with the committee members and consultants to guide the committee through the street opening application process, and provide general administrative support to the committee. Through an RFP process, engineering firm Dufresne-Henry was selected to undertake an initial engineering review of the proposed pipeline route which took place in September. At the end of the year, Aquaria was in the process of trying to alleviate some of the problems reported by Dufresne-Henry along the route of the Pipeline in Taunton and Raynham.

In response to federal mandates regarding stormwater management, the regional administrator developed a Model By-Law Regulating Storm Water Discharges Generated by Construction Activity, and subsequently worked with seven municipalities to develop stormwater brochures which were distributed early in the year. Other assistance on this topic was also provided including hosting EPA engineer David Gray at the March SERSG Highway Superintendents meeting to provide details about Phase II Construction General Permit Requirements.

Spring was busy with two SERSG cooperative procurements for fiscal year 2005. Twelve SERSG member municipalities participated in the IFB for Paper Supplies and eight members joined the DPW Supplies cooperative procurement.

We closed the year with our fall cooperative procurement for DPW Services in which fifteen of the seventeen member communities participated. The estimated value of this procurement for fourteen different DPW services is more than $6.5 million.

After a state-wide price survey, cost savings for member communities for DPW Supplies and Services for Fiscal Year 2005 were developed and estimated to total more than $650,000. Of the fifteen communities who participate in one or both of the cooperative DPW procurements, the average savings for FY05 was more than $45,000.

The Regional Administrator also began quantifying in the fall the substantial savings achieved off the list price of office supplies through the SERSG Office Supply contract with Staples. For July through September alone, the sixteen municipalities in the contract saved almost a quarter of a million dollars off list prices on office supplies.

Lara Ramey Thomas
SERSG Regional Administrator

ANNUAL REPORT 2004

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

508-230-0530
Fax 508-230-0539

Town Clerk Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Assistant Town Clerk Marie A. Graca
Clerical Assistant Karen A. Gallo
Town Clerk Emeritus Esther C. Anderson

E-Mail: jlinehan@easton.ma.us

2004 was a very busy year for the Town Clerk's Office. We conducted four elections – The Presidential Primary on March 2; the Annual Town Election on April 27; the State Primary on September 14, and the Presidential Election on November 2. At the end of the year, the Board of Selectmen announced that there would be another special Override Election to be held on January 11, 2005. Election responsibilities changed drastically this year because of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) which caused a large adjustment for the poll workers regarding Provisional Voting. HAVA required first-time voters who registered to vote by mail after January 1, 2003 to show identification. If the voter was not able to show valid identification, or a voter was not on the list for any reason, the voter was given the opportunity to cast a Provisional Ballot, which were determined after the election if valid or not.

There were five Town Meetings in 2004 – two sessions for the Annual Town Meeting - May 17 and 25; and three Special Town Meetings – January 11, July 29, December 6.

We also had additional training required regarding same-sex marriages which became allowed in Massachusetts effective May 17, 2004. We had a total of nine same-sex couples who filed marriage intentions in Easton during the remainder of the calendar year.

We assisted 420 travelers with Passport Services during 2004, bringing in $12,600 additional revenue for the Town.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE MISSION STATEMENT

The Office of the Town Clerk serves as the central information center of the Town by collecting, maintaining and disseminating public records; being a direct link between the residents of Easton and their local government. The office strives to serve the public and all Town Departments by being versatile, alert, accurate and patient. The goal of the Office of the Town Clerk is to preserve, protect and uphold all Town records in the custody of the Town Clerk, including Vital Records, and to conduct fair and impartial Elections for Registered Voters, all in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, rendering equal service to all in order to merit public confidence.

* * * * *

The Town Clerk serves you as…

CHIEF ELECTION OFFICIAL

- Oversees polling places, election officers, and the general conduct of all elections.
- Directs preparation of ballots, polling places, voting equipment, voting lists; administers campaign finance laws, certifies nomination papers and initiative petitions and serves on the local Board of Registrars.
- Supervises voter registration and absentee balloting, and prepares, records and reports official election results to the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth.
- Conducts the annual town census, prepares the street list of residents and school list, and furnishes the jury list to the Office of the Jury Commissioner.

RECORDING OFFICER

- Records and certifies all official actions of the Town, including town meeting legislation and appropriations, Planning and Zoning Board and Board of Appeals Decisions, signs all notes for borrowing, and keeps the Town Seal.
- Records state tax liens.

REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

- Registers all vital events occurring within the community and those events occurring elsewhere to local residents.
- Records and preserves original birth, marriage, and death records providing the basis for the Commonwealth's central vital registration system.

PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICER

- Administers the oath of office to all elected and appointed members of local committees and boards and ensures that all elected and appointed officials are informed of the State's Open Meeting and Conflict of Interest Laws. Posts meetings of all government bodies.
- Provides access to public records in compliance with State Public Records Law and corresponding regulations.
- Provides certified copies of vital records and conducts or assists with genealogical research for members of the public, and is responsible for maintenance, disposition and preservation of municipal archival records and materials.
- Maintains records of adopted municipal codes, local bylaws, oaths of office, resignations and appointments, petitions, publications, budgets, meeting minutes, and financial statements.
- Submits bylaws and zoning ordinances to Attorney General for approval.

LICENSING OFFICER

- Issues state licenses and permits: including marriage licenses, hunting, fishing and trapping licenses, and permits for raffles and bazaars. Issues county or local licenses, permits, and certificates as mandated by statute or bylaw, which may include business certificates, animal licenses, and fuel storage permits.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

- Responds to inquires from the general public, frequently serving as facilitator with departments, providing knowledge and assistance in a fair and impartial manner to all.
- Often considered the core of local government, the Town Clerk's Office serves as the central information point for local residents and citizens at large.

If we can be of assistance to you in any way, please contact us in person, by phone, or by e-mail.

Various meetings of the Board of Registrars were held for registration of voters for Town Meetings and all elections.

PCT	DEMOCRAT	GREEN PARTY USA	GREEN-RAINBOW	INTER. 3RD PARTY	LIBERTARIAN	REFORM	REPUBLICAN	SOCIALIST	UNENROLLED	TOTAL
At the close of Registration February 11, 2004 for the Presidential Primary on March 2, 2004										
1	415	0	2	1	4	1	324	0	751	1498
2	652	0	4	2	8	0	489	1	1299	2455
3	599	1	4	2	14	0	420	0	1203	2243
4	591	0	2	4	13	1	422	0	1207	2240
5	681	0	3	3	7	1	387	0	1307	2389
6	570	0	1	3	14	0	397	0	1187	2172
Total	3508	1	16	15	60	3	2439	1	6954	12997
At the close of Registration April 7, 2004 for Annual Town Election on April 27, 2004										
1	465	0	3	0	5	2	340	0	856	1671
2	704	0	3	2	10	0	538	1	1403	2661
3	713	1	4	4	19	1	463	0	1374	2579
4	643	0	4	1	18	2	463	0	1312	2443
5	716	0	3	2	7	1	406	0	1416	2551
6	632	0	1	3	20	0	439	0	1331	2426
Total	3873	1	18	12	79	6	2649	1	7692	14331
At the close of Registration April 27, 2004 for Annual Town Meeting on May 16, 2004										
1	425	0	2	1	4	1	330	0	766	1529
2	663	0	4	2	8	0	499	1	1327	2504
3	621	1	4	2	14	0	428	0	1239	2309
4	606	0	2	4	14	1	423	0	1223	2273
5	684	0	3	3	7	1	394	0	1336	2428
6	580	0	1	3	15	0	407	0	1219	2225
Total	3579	1	16	15	62	3	2481	1	7110	13268
At the close of Registration July 19, 2004 for Special Town Meeting on July 29, 2004										
1	429	0	2	1	6	1	331	0	775	1545
2	682	0	5	2	8	0	507	1	1346	2551
3	629	1	4	2	15	0	433	0	1253	2337
4	614	0	2	5	14	1	431	0	1245	2312
5	699	0	3	3	7	1	401	0	1353	2467
6	587	0	1	4	15	0	415	0	1234	2256
Total	3640	1	17	17	65	3	2518	1	7206	13468

PCT	DEMOCRAT	GREEN PARTY USA	GREEN-RAINBOW	INTER. 3RD PARTY	LIBERTARIAN	REFORM	REPUBLICAN	SOCIALIST	UNENROLLED	TOTAL
At the close of Registration August 25, 2004 for State Primary on September 14, 2004										
1	464	0	3	1	7	1	341	0	850	1667
2	716	0	5	3	10	0	526	1	1421	2682
3	715	1	5	3	18	1	462	0	1352	2557
4	639	0	3	4	17	2	451	0	1315	2431
5	743	0	3	4	7	1	411	0	1412	2581
6	624	0	1	4	21	0	437	0	1321	2408
Total	3901	1	20	19	80	5	2628	1	7671	14326
At the close of Registration October 13, 2004 for State Election on November 2, 2004										
1	479	0	2	1	8	1	357	0	905	1753
2	728	0	5	3	12	0	528	1	1460	2737
3	718	1	5	2	18	1	470	0	1398	2613
4	652	0	4	4	18	1	462	0	1313	2454
5	758	0	4	3	7	1	426	0	1467	2666
6	638	0	1	4	20	0	450	0	1341	2454
Total	3973	1	21	17	83	4	2693	1	7884	14677
At the close of Registration November 26, 2004 for Special Town Meeting on December 6, 2004										
1	463	0	2	1	7	1	355	0	877	1706
2	713	0	5	3	11	0	529	1	1441	2703
3	684	1	4	2	17	0	463	0	1356	2527
4	645	0	4	5	17	1	449	0	1298	2419
5	749	0	4	3	7	1	421	0	1431	2616
6	618	0	1	4	16	0	440	0	1316	2395
Total	3872	1	20	18	75	3	2657	1	7719	14366
At the close of Registration December 22, 2004 for Special Election on January 11, 2005										
1	463	0	2	1	7	1	355	0	878	1707
2	715	0	5	3	11	0	530	1	1442	2707
3	686	1	4	2	17	0	466	0	1359	2535
4	646	0	4	5	18	1	449	0	1302	2425
5	751	0	4	3	7	1	421	0	1435	2622
6	619	0	1	4	16	0	441	0	1318	2399
Total	3880	1	20	18	76	3	2662	1	7734	14395

Respectfully submitted,
Jean M. Kent, Chairman
Jean H. Cote
Kent M. Keith
Janet Andrus Linehan, Clerk
BOARD OF REGISTRARS

2004 VITAL STATISTICS RECORDED IN EASTON
RECEIVED THRU FEBRUARY 15, 2005

BIRTHS

Males	134
Females	111
	245

229	Single Births
10	Sets of Twins
2	Triplets
245	Total Children

MARRIAGES

Marriages in Easton	46
Marriages Out of Easton	56
Total Marriages Recorded	**102**

RESIDENCE OF PARTY A & PARTY B

Both Residents of Easton	59
One Easton, One Other MA Town	11
One Easton, One Out of State	0
Both Out of State	15
Both Out of Town	15
One Out of Town, One Out of Stat	2
	102

DEATHS

Residents who died in Easton	70
Residents who died out of Easton	72
Non-Residents who died in Easton	
Total	**142**

TYPE OF FACILITY:

Hospital	50
Nursing Home	51
Residence	38
Other	3
Total	**142**

BY AGE & GENDER

Ages	Female	Male	Total
0-19	0	1	1
21-29	4	4	8
50-59	7	8	15
60-69	5	16	21
70-79	21	10	31
80-89	31	15	46
90-99	15	4	19
100+(104)	1		1
Total	**84**	**58**	**142**

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES ISSUED JANUARY 2004 TO DECEMBER 2004

F1	Resident Fishing	110	$ 22.50	$	2,475.00
F2	Resident Minor Fishing(Age 15-17)	6	$ 6.50	$	39.00
F3	Resident Fishing (Age 65-69)	7	$ 11.25	$	78.75
F7	Non-Resident Fishing 3-Day	2	$ 18.50	$	37.00
T1	Resident Trapping	1	$ 30.50	$	30.50
126	**Total Fishing Licenses**			**$**	**2,660.25**
H1	Resident Citizen Hunting	32	$ 22.50	$	720.00
H2	Resident Hunting (65-69)	2	$ 11.25	$	22.50
H6	NRH Small Game	1	$ 60.50	$	60.50
S1	Sporting License	51	$ 40.00	$	2,040.00
S2	Resident Sport (65-69)	4	$ 20.00	$	80.00
DS	Dupulicate Sport Lic	1	$ 2.50	$	2.50
91	**Total Sporting Licenses**			**$**	**2,925.50**
M1	Archery Stamp	38	$ 5.00	$	190.00
M2	Waterfowl Stamp	19	$ 4.75	$	90.25
M3	Primitive Firearms Stamp	22	$ 5.00	$	110.00
W1	Land Stamp	206	$ 5.00	$	1,030.00
285	**Total Stamps Issued**			**$**	**1,420.25**
217	**Total Licenses Issued**			**$**	**5,585.75**
719	**Total Licenses and Stamps Issued**			**$**	**7,006.00**

	Sporting License Fees	208	$ 1.00	$ 208.00
	Sporting License Fees	210	$ 0.50	$ 105.00
	Stamp Fees	82	$ 0.10	$ 8.20
	Stamp Fees	26	$ 0.25	$ 6.50
	Total Fees	**526**		**$ 327.70**
	License Fees Deducted	210	$ 0.50	$ 105.00
	Waterfowl Stamp Fees Deducted	19	$ 0.25	$ 4.75
	Archery Stamp Fees Deducted	38	$ 0.10	$ 3.80
	Primitive Fire Arms Fees	22	$ 0.10	$ 2.20
	Total Fees Deducted Licenses & Stamps	**289**		**$ 115.75**
	Additional Fees Paid to Town of Easton			$ 327.70
	Total Fees Deducted			$ 443.45
	Total Paid to Fisheries & Wildlife			**$ 6,038.00**

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

DOG LICENSES ISSUED JULY 2003 TO JUNE 2004

ISSUED JULY 1, 2003 TO JULY 2004 INCLUSIVE

# issued	License	Fee	Total
	2003 (JULY TO APRIL)		
366	Neutered	$10.00	$3,660.00
67	Males	$15.00	$1,005.00
404	Spayed Females	$10.00	$4,040.00
28	Females	$15.00	$420.00
1	Kennel License	$25.00	$25.00
1	Kennel License	$50.00	$50.00
	Transfer Licenses	$3.00	$0.00
	Total Licenses		$9,200.00
	Late Fees	$ 25.00	$0.00
	Collected		**$9,200.00**
	2004 (March to June)		
809	Neutered Males	$ 10.00	$8,090.00
142	Males	$ 15.00	$2,130.00
856	Spayed Females	$ 10.00	$8,560.00
66	Females	$ 15.00	$990.00
1	Kennel	$ 25.00	$25.00
1	Kennel	$ 50.00	$50.00
2	Transfer Licenses	$ 3.00	$ -
	Total Licenses		$19,845.00
5	Late Fees	$25.00	$125.00
	Collected		$19,970.00
	Total Licenses Collected		$29,045.00
5	Total Late Fees	$ 25.00	$125.00
	Total Funds Collected		$29,170.00
	Total Paid to Treasurer		$ 29,170.00

Respectfully submitted

Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

TOWN CLERKS FEES ISSUED JANUARY 2004 TO DECEMBER 2004

	#	FEE	TOTAL
Birth Certificates	13	$ 8.00	$ 104.00
Death Certificates	1	$ 8.00	$ 8.00
Marriage Certificates	4	$ 8.00	$ 32.00
Birth Certificates	607	$ 10.00	$ 6,070.00
Death Certificates	536	$ 10.00	$ 5,360.00
Marriage Certificates	272	$ 10.00	$ 2,720.00
Marriage Intentions	118	$ 25.00	$ 2,950.00
Misc Vitals	5	$ 5.00	$ 25.00
Correction Death	3	$ 20.00	$ 60.00
Business Certificates	196	$ 25.00	$ 4,900.00
Business Certificates Disc/Change	5	$ 15.00	$ 75.00
Business Discontinuance	14	$ 20.00	$ 280.00
Certify Fee			$ 40.00
Charter (sale of)	1	$ 1.75	$ 1.75
Comm of MA	23	$ 46.00	$ 1,058.00
Copies, Disc	1	$ 25.00	$ 25.00
Copies, Etc	177	$ 0.20	$ 116.80
Declaration of Homestead	1	$ 15.00	$ 15.00
Duplicate Dog Tags	8	$ 3.00	$ 24.00
Financing State Copies	20	$ 3.00	$ 60.00
Financing State Search	1	$ 30.00	$ 30.00
Fish Holders (sale of)	8	$ 0.25	$ 2.00
Gas (various)			$ 3,044.00
General By-Laws	1	$ 30.00	$ 30.00
Misc			$ 9.90
Passports	311	$ 30.00	$ 9,330.00
Raffle Permits	4	$ 15.00	$ 60.00
Recording Pole Locations	7	$ 25.00	$ 175.00
Sale of By-Laws etc.			$ 66.75
Search Fees			$ 37.00
Street Lists (sale of)	104	$ 10.00	$ 1,040.00
Voter ID Cards	3	$ 8.00	$ 24.00
Voter ID Cards	1	$ 6.00	$ 6.00
TOTAL Town Clerk Fees			**$ 37,779.20**
Sporting License Fees	40	$ 1.00	$ 40.00
Sporting License Fees	167	$ 0.50	$ 83.50
Sporting License Fees	23	$ 0.25	$ 5.75
Sporting License Fees	40	$ 0.10	$ 4.00
Sporting License Fees 04	23	$ 0.50	$ 11.50
Sporting License Fees 04	30	$ 0.10	$ 3.00
Total All fees			**$ 37,926.95**

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

2004 REPORT OF
THE EASTON FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

OPERATIONS

2004 was another busy year for the Easton Fire Department. The department responded to a total of 3018 incidents in 2004. A total of 5815 pieces of apparatus were utilized to handle those incidents. The department responded to 43 fires in structures, 31 brush fires, 16 vehicle fires, and 49 other types of fires. The department also responded to 1188 medical emergencies and 439 automobile accidents. A total of 1048 patients were transported to local hospitals. The remainder of the responses can be categorized as either investigations of potentially hazardous situations or public service calls.

When the fire department budget was approved at the annual town meeting, it allowed us to appoint two new firefighter / paramedics to fill vacancies that have existed for the past several years. On November 15, 2004 Michael Greene and Timothy Vamosi were appointed to the department. They are both licensed paramedics. They will be attending the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy recruit training program as soon as possible. However, due to an extensive back-log at the fire academy, it may be sometime before they are able to complete this invaluable training.

The department is currently staffed with 33 uniformed personnel. **Once again I must emphasize that we are under-staffed for a department that is required to cover 29.4 square miles and protect approximately 24,000 residents**. It is getting increasingly difficult to handle the escalating demands for service with the very limited on-duty staffing. The incidence of multiple emergency calls taking place simultaneously increases each year as the town continues to grow. Citizens are being forced to wait for dangerously long periods of time for the arrival of emergency vehicles because the on-duty personnel are committed to other calls. Even with the addition of new personnel, we still have 2 unfilled vacancies (the Deputy Chief's position lost through attrition and a vacancy created by a recent retirement). Our current staffing level remains below what it was back in the late 1980s (35 personnel). As a result of the staffing shortage, one of our 3 fire stations (Station # 2 on Depot St.) had to be closed for a considerable amount of time during the year (25.6% of the time). It was closed for 131 day time shifts and 56 night time shifts. Unfortunately this trend will continue until additional staffing can be hired. Closing a station is a dangerous practice for several reasons. First of all, due to the size of the town and the poor road networking system (as pointed out by the Fire Study conducted by consultants in 1997.), three stations are needed to provide adequate coverage. With a station closed, the response times increase. In an emergency situation time can be a critical factor in determining the outcome of that situation. Secondly, the reason a station is closed is due to insufficient on-duty personnel to man the apparatus. We man our apparatus with only 2 firefighters (far below the accepted minimum national standard of 4). With insufficient staffing, the safety of the personnel responding to the needs of the community is jeopardized. Closing a station also hinders our ability to respond to multiple calls. As mentioned above, with increasing frequency there are times when all available on-duty personnel are committed to one call leaving no one available to respond to the next incident. We do have a method in place to call back off-duty personnel, but the number of call back personnel is minimal and unpredictable. We are forced to rely on mutual aid apparatus to respond to calls in our own town. Mutual aid is a vital part of any emergency response system, but the response times can be lengthy.

To emphasize how critical the situation has become, in 2004 Easton Fire Department apparatus (fire trucks and ambulances) responded on mutual aid to assist all our surrounding communities 98 times. Yet we had to call apparatus in from other communities 175 times to assist us. There were 1048 patients transported to area hospitals last year. 147 of those patients were transported by out of town ambulances. Not only were there delays in providing emergency service waiting for the mutual aid ambulances to arrive, but there was also a loss of revenue to the Town of Easton (the transporting ambulance bills for services). From the chart below, you can see that each year we are increasingly relying on our neighboring communities to provide the services we cannot provide with current staffing levels.

Patients transported by mutual aid ambulances

1997 = 62 or 6.9%
1998 = 68 or 7.7%
1999 = 80 or 9.4%
2000 = 116 or 10.3%
2001 = 103 or 10.2%
2002 = 125 or 12.7%
2003 = 137 or 14%
2004 = 147 or 14%

Mutual aid is a concept that has been utilized by the fire service for over a century. It is a system designed to help every city and town deal with those **unusual incidents** that a community cannot handle on their own. After the events of September 11, 2001 local fire and police departments are expected to be the "first line of defense" against terrorist activities and events involving weapons of mass destruction. However with current staffing levels, we must rely on mutual aid just the handle the day-to-day routine calls. With all neighboring cities and towns experiencing financial difficulties, mutual aid may not be as reliable as it has been in the past. This will further reduce our ability to provide the emergency services expected and demanded by the citizens of Easton.

Additional Under-Staffing issue

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, through the Department of Public Health / Office of Emergency Medical Services continues to impose regulations on cites and towns without providing the necessary funding to ensure that the regulations they impose can be carried out. We have provided an Advance Life Support Ambulance service to the Town of Easton since 1995. This allows our paramedics to provide the highest level of pre-hospital care available to our citizens. New regulations went into effect on March 1, 2004 requiring us to have a paramedic on-duty 24 hours a day 7 days a week. We only have 2 paramedics scheduled to work each shift. With vacation and Holiday time to be utilized, this new regulation will place a tremendous monetary burden (overtime costs) on the department and the paramedics themselves to ensure compliance with the new regulations. Additional firefighter / paramedics must be added in order to continue providing the level of care demanded not only by our citizens but also by the receiving emergency room medical staffs at the area hospitals. If we are not able to comply with the new regulations, we risk losing our Advanced Life Support ambulance license.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Firefighting and emergency medical training are vital to ensuring that the Easton Fire and Rescue Department is able to respond effectively and efficiently to the many calls for assistance that we receive. Most of the training is conducted "in-service" while the personnel are on duty, but many members take advantage of training and educational opportunities on their own "off-duty" time. Captain James Walsh is the department's training officer and coordinates the training activities. We frequently work directly with the instructors and training staff of the Department of Fire Services Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. This ensures that firefighting practices and procedures keep pace with new advances in technology. As expected, many of the training opportunities currently available deal with terrorism preparedness.

On an annual basis all EMTs, from the basic level to the paramedic level, are required to complete many hours of continuing education in order to improve their ability to deliver high quality medical care. Our EMS Training Coordinator FF / Paramedic Brendan McCarthy and Advanced Life Support coordinator FF / Paramedic Evan Malone conduct most of the medical training for department members along with offering CPR and first-aid training to various groups in the community

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND FIRE PREVENTION

The most important function of any Fire & Rescue Department is to prevent the occurrence of situations that produce injury, death, destruction to property or negatively impact our environment. We try to accomplish this through our Public Education and Fire Prevention division.

The S.A.F.E. (Student Awareness of Fire Education) Program is now in its 10th year. This program is a cooperative effort between firefighters, school principals, teachers, and students. The program was originally developed and funded through a state grant. This year, due to cuts in the state's budget, the grant funding was significantly less then what was received in previous years. However, I am very proud to say that this extremely important and successful program was presented to elementary school students, all though on a "scaled back" manner through the determined efforts of Captain Dave Beals, FF Larry Blye and FF Chris Mills. We hope that the grant funding will be restored in the future in order to assist us with expanding the program to reach other groups in the community.

The demands on the Fire Prevention office are continuing to increase. A great deal of new construction is taking place in Easton at this time. Captain John Howard is the department's fire prevention officer. He is responsible for reviewing the construction plans for all new buildings to ensure they meet the ever-changing fire codes. He is also responsible for conducting hundreds of inspections throughout the year. In addition to the annual inspection of all businesses licensed by the town, all schools and nursing homes were inspected. The following were also completed, 149 residential plan reviews, 473 smoke detector inspections, 111 oil burning equipment inspections, 37 propane fuels storage inspections, 23 commercial sprinkler system installation or revision inspections, and 24 commercial fire alarm system installation or revision inspections.

In response to the tragic fire in West Warwick, RI almost 2-years ago, Governor Romney commissioned a "public safety task force" to study that incident and propose new fire safety regulations and building codes in an effort to reduce the possibility of a similar event occurring again here in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As a result of the task force recommendations, the Governor signed into law a new set of regulations (MGL Chapter 304) that will impact certain existing places of assembly with occupancies of 100 or more people. It will also regulate the construction of new occupancies of 50 or more people. As a result, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will have some of the strongest fire sprinkler regulation in the entire nation. This will have a very positive impact on the safety of Massachusetts citizens. However, it will place an additional burden on fire and building inspectors in terms of training, code enforcement and inspection activities.

FIRE ALARM

Captain James Walsh and FF William Wolffe performed repairs and maintenance procedures to the municipal fire alarm system. Several new radio activated fire alarm boxes were installed during the year. Master alarm boxes activated by a building's internal fire alarm system were installed at the following locations; Shaw's Market, Bourne Enterprises, Viking Sheet Metal, 7-Eleven Store, and new commercial multi-units at 502 Foundry St., and on Roche Bros. Way.

As a result of town meeting approval, we were able to purchase a "used bucket truck" in November. This will allow the fire alarm repair crew to perform system maintenance in a more efficient and safer manner.

APPARATUS AND STATIONS

In early September, a new ambulance was delivered and placed in service. This unit replaces a well used 1996 ambulance. At the very end of December (after some unforeseen delays), our new pumper arrived at Greenwood Fire Apparatus Company in North Attleboro. After some minor customization work is completed, the department members will be trained on the new vehicle and it will be placed in full service in early 2005. This new truck replaces a 1974 Maxim pumper that broke down in April of 2003.

Voters also approved of funding to refurbish a 1992 pumper (Engine # 1). The refurbishing bid has been awarded to Greenwood Fire Apparatus and the project will commence sometime in the early spring of 2005.

Our only reserve-pumping engine is Engine # 4 (a 1981 Mack). This vehicle is now 24 years old, in need of major repairs, and does not have many of the safety features mandated in newer piece of apparatus. This combined with the fact that Engine # 3 (a 1987 pumper) was taken out of service in 2001 after failing to pass a safety inspection due to severe chassis corrosion and decay, and never replaced makes it extremely important that a new pumper be purchased as soon as possible. This will allow us to have a very reliable pumper to put into service when one of the front-line units is out for repairs or routine servicing.

In each of the past 3 years, we have applied for a federal "Assistance to Firefighters Grant" administered by the Department of Homeland Security – Office of Domestic Preparedness in the hopes of obtaining funding to purchase a new pumper. Up to this point in time, we have not been successful in obtaining a grant.

Fire Station # 2 on Depot Street, our oldest station, is in need of repairs or replacement. This station was built in 1934 under a Federal WPA project. The Fire Study committee concluded that a three-station configuration is necessary to adequately cover the Town. Of our three stations, the Depot Street station is most ideally located. It offers immediate access to the Town's only major east / west connector (Route 123) and is closest to our main north / south connector (Route 138). The Town will face some financially difficult years in the near future. But the Town must decide to either make some major repairs to the present Depot Street Station or build a new building.

PERSONNEL

As mentioned earlier, 2 new firefighter / paramedics (Michael Greene and Timothy Vamosi) were appointed in November. They are ready to serve the Town of Easton and we hope they have very successful and safe careers with the Easton Fire Department.

On July 15, 2004 Firefighter Carey Benson retired. He served the department and community in a very admirable and professional manner for the past 29 years. His experience and expertise as a firefighter and emergency medical technician will be missed. We wish him the best for a long and healthy retirement.

The members of the Easton Fire & Rescue Department continue to donate many hours of their own time in order to ensure that the department responds efficiently to the needs of the community. I would like to thank all of them for their commitment to this effort.

Mission Statement:

"The Easton Fire & Rescue Department is committed to protecting the people, property, and environment within our community. We will be responsive to the needs of our citizens by providing rapid, professional, humanitarian services essential to the health, safety, and well being of the community. We will accomplish our mission through fire prevention, fire safety awareness education, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and other related emergency and non-emergency activities. We will actively participate in our community, serve as role models, and strive to effectively and efficiently utilize all of the necessary resources at our command to provide a product deemed excellent by our citizens. ALWAYS READY, PROUD TO SERVE".

TO REPORT A FIRE OR ANY EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

For other Fire Department business or assistance, Dial 508-230-3311

Additional phone numbers;

Fire Chief's Office 508-230-0750
Fire Prevention Office 508-230-0750
Fax Number 508-238-2891

CONCLUSION

On a personal note, I would like to thank all the officers, firefighters, and the department's administrative secretary as well as the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, all the Department heads and members of the various Town boards and committees for their assistance over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Stone, Fire Chief

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
www:eastonpd.com

The Town of Easton Police Department continues its efforts to prevent crime and ensure the safety and protection of the civil rights of those in our community.

The increase in motor vehicle traffic and congestion, the use of highly addictive illegal drugs, and the crimes related to their use, as well as the non-violent computer crimes and identity fraud are the areas of greatest concern for us. As in all growing communities, demands on the police continue to increase and change, and we will continue to evolve and adjust as required.

During the past year two new officers were appointed to the department, Christopher Aker and Michael Golden. Both are currently in the Bolyston criminal justice training academy and are scheduled to graduate March 11th 2005, after twenty-one weeks of intense training. Richard Gravely left his position as a civilian dispatcher after 4 years with the department and he is now working for the Easton School Department. His position has not been filled. Acting Chief Thomas F. Kominsky was named permanent Chief.

Community Policing:

Hugs II, led by Domestic violence officer Denise Papagno, continues to serve victims of domestic violence and their families. A few of its programs are: Walk for Family Safety, After School Homework Club, and the Anti Bullying Program. Easton Police work closely with Brockton Family and Community Resource.

Triad coordinator Sergeant Robert Grinham was very active this year working with the seniors of Easton. The Triad Program is collaboration between the Bristol County Sheriffs Department, the Easton Police Department and senior citizens. During the year the group held a Senior Prom attended by 175 seniors and installed approximately 350 reflective house numbers designed to locate seniors quickly should they have a problem. Plans for Operation Life Saver are now under way.

No Place For Hate: Officer George Allen is the municipal liaison for the No Place for Hate Committee which helps to safe-guard the civil rights for all who may be victimized by a hate related crime or bias.

We appreciate the members of the Easton community for their efforts to help us keep our town safe. The entire Police Department is commended for their dedication and professionalism. Many thanks to them and to all the boards, committee members, Town Administrator, department heads and their teams.

2004 STATISTICS

TOTAL INCIDENTS	10,439
E 9-1-1 CALL VOLUME	
Total Primary Calls Answered	3173
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS	
Murder	1
Suicides	2
Attempted Suicides	22

Rapes	1
Sexual Assaults	4
Robberies	4
Assault & Battery/Weapons	8
Assault & Battery	32

PROPERTY CRIMES

BREAK & ENTRIES

B & E Residence	38
B & E Motor Vehicle	62
B & E Business	39
B & E Attempts	20

LARCENIES

Larcenies over $250	69
Larcenies under $250	100
Larceny of Motor Vehicles	23
Recovered Stolen Motor Vehicles	10
Shoplifting	23

In Custody

ARRESTS	281
Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs	37
Protective Custody	9

MISCELLANEOUS TYPES

Domestic Situations	218
Domestic Violence	32
Disturbance	87
Disorderly Persons	19
Noise Complaints	150
General Service	703
Missing Persons	12
Vandalism	289
Alarms	1541
Annoying Phone Calls	53
Animal Complaints	267
Barking Dog Complaints	17

ACCIDENTS

Fatal Accidents	2
Property Damage Accidents	639
Personal Injury Accidents	128

PERMITS & CITATIONS

Traffic Citations	2864
Pistol Permits/FID's Issued	216

PROBLEMS OR COMMENTS

Police Chief Thomas Kominsky: tkominsky@easton.ma.us
Lieutenant Allen Krajcik: akrajcik@easton.ma.us
Telephone Number: 508-230-3322

MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

"The mission of the Easton Police Department is to protect life, property, and the constitutional rights of all citizens. This can be achieved by working in harmony with the community we serve, committed to the conviction that by working together our community has the ability to form its own destiny."

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kominsky
Chief of Police

2004 REPORT OF
THE ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT

The Animal Control Department is responsible in enforcing the State, county and local government animal laws. We protect citizens from intimidation and injury from animals. We also protect animals from health hazards, especially rabies and from abuse, neglect and inhumane treatment.

The Animal Control Officers for the Town of Easton may be reached by calling (508) 230-3353, in case of a emergency (508) 230-3322.

We would like to thank all the owners who are in compliance with the license laws. Licensing your dog is a valuable tool because it gives us information about the rabies vaccination and ownership of the dog. This information is extremely important to us in case of a bite incident, or contact between your dog and wildlife, or if a vehicle strikes your dog. A licensed dog shall wear the license around its neck or on its body on a collar or harness.

A rabies vaccination by law is required for all dogs and cats. A collar to identify the owner of your cat would be a great assist in getting the cat returned to the owner if found.

We would like to thank Marie Graca and Karen Gallo for their time and effort in composing a list of all dog owners in the Town; this is invaluable tool which helps us to follow up on unlicensed dogs.

Eight animals were submitted to the State Lab Virology Division for testing. The animals submitted for testing were one cat, one dog, five skunks and one raccoon. One skunk tested positive.

West Nile Virus is still around. We sent two birds into the lab to be tested. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has a new protocol for submitting dead birds to the State lab. They are as follows; if specimen is a crow or blue jay, has been dead less than twenty-four hours, and is intact and free of maggots, flies and ants, it can be tested.

ANIMAL CONTROL STATISTIC

Calls received	2011
Complaints	1503
General Info	503
Missing animals	189
Dogs picked up	38
Dead animals	256

Thirty-two dogs were returned to their owners or adopted. Six dogs were turned over to rescue leagues. Three cats were turned over to the MSPCA. Every possible attempt is made to find homes for unwanted animals.

Calls for sightings of wildlife are increasing due to the diminishing of their habitat. This causes them to prey closer to the populated areas to find food. Make sure dog and cat food are not left outside and garbage is properly covered.

We are continuing to pursue owners of unlicensed dogs, unleashed dogs, dog bites, and nuisance complaints with hearings held at the Police Station. This is part of the Police Department's efforts to reach out to the community, using a Community Oriented Policy Philosophy. Lieutenant Allen Krajcik has conducted numerous hearings at the station with many complaints being solved. This also saves our citizens from going to Taunton District Court and missing work but unfortunately we had four court cases.

Dead animals picked up; forty-seven skunks, twenty-one cats, forty-six raccoons, forty-seven deer, thirty-one squirrels, sixteen foxes, ten opossums, three dogs, one rabbit, five coyotes, two bats, two geese, one hawks, two ducks, one chicken, one turkey, one rat, two woodchucks, two snakes and fifteen birds.

We would like to thank the Police Chief, Dispatchers, members of the Police and Fire Departments, Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, Town Clerk's staff, Board of Health and the DPW for their cooperation and support.

Respectfully submitted,

John Melin, Animal Control Officer
Elizabeth De Rosa, Animal Control Officer

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE PERMANENT LANDFILL COMMITTEE

The Landfill Committee is happy to report the landfill closure is complete. The contractor, ET&L, has performed all punch list tasks as well as two complete mowings of the eighteen acre site as per contract. The committee's responsibility remains to monitor the performance of the gas flare and the annual maintenance of the site.

The members of the committee have changed over the past year but we would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of two of the original members for their many hours of service.

Peter Downey was an invaluable member from the committee's beginning. He served as Vice-Chairman and his attention to detail and his ability to interpret information as it was presented enabled us to be as effective as possible in the performance of our charge. Peter died of cancer before the landfill was completed but we would not have had such a positive outcome if it weren't for his dedication to this project.

Henry Mehler also was one of the original members of the committee. He served as Chairman for the first three years. His knowledge of public bidding requirements and regulations as well as attention to the accounting aspects of the project enabled us to make informed decisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Gil Heino
Jay Conceison
Todd Heino
Richard Harb
David Brown
Martha White, Ex-Officio
Wayne Southworth, Ex-Officio

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF SELF HELP, INC.

During the program year ending September 30, 2004, Self Help, Inc., received a total funding of approximately **$16.7M** and provided direct services to **23,823** limited income households in the area.

In the TOWN OF EASTON, Self Help, Inc. provided services totaling **$255,534** to **519** households during program year 2004.

Self Help's total funding of $16,654,660 does not tell the real value of services delivered to the area as a whole. This funding enabled us to mobilize an additional $1,448,314 of other community resources such as, volunteers, donations of space, and private donations in the form of goods and services. Therefore, the total impact of Self Help, Inc., during the past program year was **$18,534,048.**

In addition, Self Help currently employs 285 individuals. Many of these individuals are of limited income, and most reside in our service area.

We feel that October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004 was a successful program year for us because we were able to assist as many individuals and/or families as we did, regardless of the challenges of being a human service provider.

We thank the Board of Selectmen and all the volunteers for helping us to make fiscal year 2004 a successful one.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Wang
Executive Assistant/Human Resource Manager

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Easton Housing Authority is pleased to present its' annual report for the year 2004. The Authority's 184 state-aided elderly/disabled, 10 state-aided family and 101 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers remained tenanted for the year.

The Easton Housing Authority maintains open waiting lists for all of our programs and grant preference to Easton residents and applicants who work in Easton. Currently the income limits for the elderly/disabled and family housing units are as follows:

One Person	$40,250.00
Two People	$46,000.00
Three People	$51,570.00
Four People	$57,500.00
Five People	$62,100.00
Six People	$66,700.00
Seven People	$71,300.00
Eight or more	$75,900.00

Senior citizens over the age of 60 and who fall within the published income guidelines are eligible to apply for housing at Parker Terrace and Elise Circle. Additionally applicants with a disability who are unable to locate alternative suitable housing may be eligible. Anyone interested in applying for either state-aided public housing programs are encouraged to contact our office for an application and information.

The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program waiting list remains open. This list has been open to applicants since 1998 and has a large number of applicants on it, however, Easton residents and applicants working in Easton receive priority over non-Easton applicants. The income limits for this program are as follows:

One Person	$24,600.00
Two People	$28,100.00
Three People	$31,650.00
Four People	$35,150.00
Five People	$37,950.00
Six People	$40,750.00
Seven People	$43,600.00
Eight People	$46,400.00

The Robert J. Keefe Community Center at Parker Terrace continues to be the site for Old Colony Elderly Services congregate lunch program, serving hot lunches Monday through Friday for Senior Citizens, and hosts their Meals on Wheels Program. Additionally, the Authority donates the use of both the Robert J. Keefe Community Center at Parker Terrace and the Jerry Fitzgerald Community Center at Elise Circle for the use of the Council on Aging's senior center programs, including arts and crafts, dancing and exercise, etc.

Anyone interested in applying to the Authority, or wishing to hear more about our programs can contact our office:

By Phone	508-238-4747
By FAX	508-230-9694
By Email	eastonha@aol.com
By Mail	Parker Terrace North Easton, MA 02356

The Authority continues to extend its gratitude to the residents, staff and residents of Easton for its continued support. It is this support that enables the Authority to operate successfully and provide its residents with safe, sanitary and decent housing operating solely on revenues received from tenant rents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Conant, Chairman
June Brousseau, Vice-Chairman
Michael Malloy, Treasurer
Barbara Dolloff-Gratan, Assistant Treasurer

2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE GREATER ATTLEBORO/TAUNTON HOME CONSORTIUM

The Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC) was established near the end of the year with the goal of providing funding to the surrounding communities, including Easton, for affordable housing development, housing renovation, and down payment & closing cost assistance to first time homebuyers. The City of Taunton, through the Mayor's Office of Community Development (MOCD) has been designated as the Representative Member for GATHC. In this capacity, MOCD provides the administrative oversight on behalf of GATHC. The first year allocation is $955,651 of federal HOME funds with an additional $51,057 of American Dream Down Payment Initiative funds. The areas served are: Attleboro, Berkley, Dighton, Easton, Lakeville, Mansfield, Middleborough, North Attleboro, Norton, Plainville, Raynham, Seekonk, and Taunton. Access to these funds is through MOCD by calling (508) 821-1030 or e-mailing mocddir@tmlp.com.

2004 REPORT OF
THE HUMAN RESOURCES BOARD

The Human Resources Board was established by Town Meeting vote on January 12, 2004. The 5-member committee was appointed by the Town Moderator and held their first organizational meeting on November 16, 2004. At that meeting, the following officers were named:

Carolyn Carpentier	Chair
Elyese Cicchetti	Vice Chair
Anne-Marie Ofori-Acquaah	Secretary

Additional members are Donald Shanbar and Stephen Delamere.

The Board quickly endeavored to hire a consultant to complete a new wage and classification study for the non-union employees, as authorized by the January 12, 2004 Town Meeting. A Request for Proposals describing the scope of services was sent to nine firms on December 9, 2004, with a deadline of January 7, 2005. We are currently awaiting proposals and hope to present the selected consultant to the Board of Selectmen by early February.

The Board is very much looking forward to working with the Town Administrator, the managers and the employees of Easton.

TOWN OF EASTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

NOVEMBER 17, 2003

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton in the County of Bristol:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Easton qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium in said Easton on Monday, the17th day of November, next, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2003

At 7:30 p.m. a total of 160 voters had checked in. It was determined to wait 15 minutes. At 7:45 p.m., there still being no quorum present, it was moved to adjourn to February 2, 2004. This was amended to Monday, January 12, 2004 in the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. VOTED.. It was noted that Moderator Richard C. Dailey would not available for the meeting on January 12. Total voters present – 177.

A true record. Attest: Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

NOTICE OF ADJOURNED SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Be it known that the Special Town Meeting on Monday, November 17, 2003 was duly adjourned to:

MONDAY, January 12, 2004, AT SEVEN O'CLOCK P.M.

In the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium to see what action the town will take in respect to:

ARTICLES 1-23, inclusive

And any all matters that may legally come before the meeting.

Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

ADJOURNED SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Monday, January 12, 2004

Deputy Moderator John F. Creedon called the Special Town Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with quorum present.

The following non-voters were voted admittance to the hall: Martha L. White, Town Administrator; Janet Andrus Linehan, Town Clerk; Anne Carney, Assistant Assessor; Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant;

John L. Nunes, Collector-Treasurer; William Simmons, School Superintendent; Wade Saucier, Health Director; Marc Rousseau, Town Planner; Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager; D. Mark Trivett, Building Inspector; John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent; Michael Green, Ed.D. Assistant to Superintendent; Marilyn Gordon, School Business Manager; Robert Smith and Gary Mazzola, School Prinicpals; Annalee Bundy, Library Director; Eric Davis, Data Processing, Julie Bertram, Assistant Treasurer; Joan Langsam, Brackett & Lucas; James J. Hager, Superintendent, Southeastern Regional School District; State Senators Brian Joyce, Robert Creedon; State Representatives Geraldine Creedon, David Flynn, Christine Canavan; Congressman Stephen Lynch; Anna Orlando and Bill Gouveia, Easton Journal; Robyn Souza, Comcast; Vicki Downing and Greg D'Andrea, Enterprise; Mark Torrey, Any Morgan, Katie Covett, Lauren Henry, Amanda Williams, microphone carriers; Joseph P. O'Brien, Jr. and Marcia Allen of May Institute; Richard Zagami, Christopher French and Robin Rogers.

ARTICLE 1. REAPPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote under Article 15 of the May 19, 2003 (adjourned to June 9, 2003) Annual Town Meeting specifically to reduce the appropriation made to the Southeastern Regional School by the amount of $138,551 and further to increase the appropriation to the School Department by the amount of $138,551, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

Moved to amend the vote under Article 15 of the May 19, 2003 (adjourned to June 9, 2003) Annual Town Meeting as printed in your warrant. *UNANIMOUS VOTE.*

EXPLANATION: This funding represents the over-appropriation made at the Annual Town Meeting due to the Regional School's miscalculation of the assessments. This article re-appropriates the funding to the public schools.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 2. AMENDING PRIOR VOTE REGARDING PURCHASE OF CRUISERS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote under Article 16 of the May 19, 2003 (adjourned to June 9, 2003) Annual Town Meeting specifically to allow one of the cruisers authorized for purchase by the Police Department to be an unmarked cruiser, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Acting Chief of Police)

Moved to amend the vote under Article 16 of the May 19, 2003 (adjourned to June 9, 2003) Annual Town Meeting to allow one of the cruisers authorized for purchase by the police department to be an unmarked cruiser. *UNANIMOUS VOTE.*

EXPLANATION: The vote under Article 16 of the last Annual Town Meeting specifically stated "marked cruisers." The Chief is asking that one of the cruisers funded by the prior vote be an unmarked vehicle. It will replace an unmarked 1995 Crown Victoria which is in need of extensive repairs. There will likely be a savings as a result of this vote, since unmarked vehicles cost a bit less than marked cruisers.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: SimpleMajority

ARTICLE 3. PAYMENT OF PRIOR YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay the cost of bills incurred in a prior fiscal year, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

Moved to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of $177.18 to pay an invoice from Moore Medical, Inc., which invoice was incurred in fiscal year 2002. *UNANIMOUS VOTE.*

EXPLANATION: This invoice was recently presented for payment, yet since it is from 2 prior fiscal years ago, town meeting authorization is required to pay it.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: 9/10 majority

ARTICLE 4. ACCEPTANCE OF STATE STATUTE TO INCREASE FEE FOR MUNICIPAL LIEN CERTIFICATES

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 60, section 23B which reads in part: The provisions of Chapter 60, section 23B allows for the following municipal lien certificate fees: for land upon which is situated a residence for four or more families, a fee of one hundred dollars; for land upon which is situated a commercial, industrial or public utility structure, a fee of one hundred and fifty dollars; for farms, forest land and all other real property, a fee of fifty dollars. In no case shall the fee exceed one-half of one percent of the assessed value of the real estate, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Town Collector/Treasurer)

Moved to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 60, section 23B, as printed in your warrant. *VOTED.*

EXPLANATION: We presently charge $25 for a municipal lien certificate. This is a revenue generating effort which will raise the fee for residential properties to $50, and for other properties to a maximum of $150.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 5. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be placed in the Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

Moved to transfer from free cash the sum of $471,522, said funds to be transferred to the Stabilization Fund. *UNANIMOUS VOTE.*

We utilized $471,522 from the Stabilization Fund at the last Annual Town Meeting, and made a commitment to Moody's bond rating service that we would replenish this amount at our earliest opportunity. This article fulfills that commitment.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Two-thirds

ARTICLE 6. APPROPRIATION OF CPA FUNDS FOR HOUSING PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of $25,000 from Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserves for the purpose of contributing funding for a community housing project of

the May Institute, specifically a group home for four persons, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Community Preservation Committee)

Moved to appropriate the sum of $25,000 from Community Preservation Fund Housing Reserves for the purpose of contributing funding for a group home to be constructed and operated by May Institute for four individuals, subject to said project qualifying as an affordable housing project under MGL c. 40B, and in the event that such home is no longer operated as an affordable housing project or any other event occurs whereby funds are returned or payable to the Town of Easton pursuant to deed restrictions or the Regulatory Agreement related to said group home, then such funds up to the amount of $25,000, shall be paid into the Housing Reserves of the Community Preservation Fund. ***UNANIMOUS VOTE.***

EXPLANATION: This article appropriates funding of $25,000 for an affordable housing project sponsored by the May Institute.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Community Preservation Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 7. SUPPLEMENT FY04 OPERATING BUDGETS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to supplement existing Fire Department and Veterans' Department budgets for the Fiscal Year 2004 budget, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

Moved that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of $60,999 to supplement existing Fiscal Year 2004 budgets of which $16,042 shall be transferred from Free Cash, $21,238 shall be transferred from account 01-003-15-6105 voted pursuant to Article 19 of the May 19, 2003 (adjourned to June 9, 2003) Annual Town Meeting, $1,233 shall be transferred from account 01-003-15-6094 voted pursuant to Article 27 of the May 20, 2002 Annual Town Meeting, $13,983 shall be transferred from the FY 2004 Land Use and Permitting department budget, and $8,503 shall be transferred from the FY 2004 Maturing Debt and Interest budget, said funding to be used to supplement the FY 2004 Fire Department budget in the amount of $40,999 and the FY 2004 Veterans' Department budget in the amount of $20,000. ***UNANIMOUS VOTE.***

EXPLANATION: Funding is requested to supplement the Veterans' department budget to cover existing and anticipated direct benefits for veterans, and the Fire department budget to cover the cost of personnel returning from active military duty. In addition to free cash, the funding sources include previous town meeting articles related to funding for activated personnel, excess salary appropriations for the Land Use and Permitting Department, and the Maturing Debt and Interest budget.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 8. INCREASE FILING FEE FOR COMPREHENSIVE PERMIT APPLICATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 400 of the Code of the Town of Easton (Comprehensive Permits), specifically section 400-3, paragraph B(1) therein by deleting said paragraph in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

B. Filing Fee

(1) The application shall be accompanied by a filing fee:

(a) For limited dividend organizations: $500 per project plus $50.00/dwelling unit.

(b) For nonprofit organizations: $500 per project plus $25.00/dwelling unit

(c) For applications submitted by Public Agencies and for Local Initiative Projects, no filing fee will be applied.

or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

Moved to amend Chapter 400 of the Code of the Town of Easton as printed in your warrant. *VOTED.*

EXPLANATION: We presently charge $100 for the comprehensive permit applications, which is grossly inadequate given the extensive staff time spent reviewing these proposals.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Zoning Board of Appeals: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 9. AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY-LAW REGARDING OUTSIDE DINING

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting March 27, 1973 and amended through June 4, 2001, specifically by amending Section V (Use Regulations), paragraph 5-3 (Table of Use Regulations), section E.(3) therein such that said section shall read as follows:

	R	R1	B	BN	I	E	F	M
3)Drive-in, open-air restaurant, outside dining facility, or other establishment providing food and beverages with no live or mechanical entertainment	N	N	Y	N	SP	N	SP	N

and to accept the report of the Planning & Zoning Board in relation to this article, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Planning and Zoning Board

Moved to dismiss Article 9. *VOTED TO DISMISS.*

EXPLANATION: This issue warrants further study before it is presented to town meeting for vote. The proposal pertains to easing the review process for outdoor dining.

Selectmen: Recommend Dismissal
Planning and Zoning Board: Recommend disapproval
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 10. AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY-LAW REGARDING RESIDENTIAL COMPOUNDS

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting March 27, 1973 and amended through June 4, 2001, specifically by

amending Section VII (Special Provisions), paragraph 7-5 (Residential Compound), section C) 6. therein by deleting said section in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

A buffer zone of at least 75 feet in width of indigenous vegetation shall separate new structures in the development from any adjacent public way. The buffer zone shall provide a dense vegetative screen, which shall be supplemented by additional indigenous vegetation, and landscaping that is designed to block the view of the residential structures from the existing public way.

And to accept the report of the Planning & Zoning Board in relation to this article, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Planning and Zoning Board)

Moved to amend the Zoning By-Law as printed in your warrant. ***3 Opposed. More than Two-thirds in Favor.***

EXPLANATION: This proposed amendment deals with a required buffer zone. Currently, all structures incorporated within a Residential Compound, whether they are existing or new, need to be screened from the public way. The amendment would make the buffer requirement applicable only to new structures.

Selectmen: Recommend
Planning and Zoning Board: Recommend Approval
Vote required to pass: Two-thirds

A motion was made to Advance Article 19, 20 and 21. The following persons were duly sworn and performed the duties of counters: Barry DunKley, Charles King, John Kent, Richard Harb, Clifford Skip Davis, Denise Higgins, Patricia Hunt, Louis Ansello, Dawn Boynton. Vote to advance articles 191 Yes, 88 No. Did not pass by two-thirds. ***ARTICLES NOT ADVANCED.***

ARTICLE 11. AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY-LAW REGARDING OPEN SPACE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting March 27, 1973 and amended through June 4, 2001, specifically by amending Section VII (Special Provisions), paragraph 7-15 (Open Space Residential Development), section C) 6. b) (2) therein by specifying a minimum lot frontage as follows:

(2) Minimum lot frontage: twenty (20) feet

and to accept the report of the Planning & Zoning Board in relation to this article, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Planning and Zoning Board)

Moved to amend the Zoning By-Law as printed in your warrant. ***UNANIMOUS VOTE.***

EXPLANATION: This amendment relates to minimum lot frontage. Currently, there is no frontage requirement in an Open Space Residential Development, yet under Massachusetts Subdivision Control Law when there is no frontage requirement it is deemed to be 20'. The proposed change would bring the Zoning By-Law into conformance with the Subdivision Control Law.

Selectmen: Recommend
Planning and Zoning Board: Recommend Approval
Vote required to pass: Two-thirds

ARTICLE 12. CHANGING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF ASSESSORS' NEW GROWTH CALCULATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Section 40 of Chapter 653 of the Acts of 1989, which Section amends Chapter 59 section 2A (a) of the Massachusetts General Laws, and which Section reads as follows:

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in any city or town which accepts the provisions of this sentence, buildings and other things erected on or affixed to the land during the period beginning on January second and ending on June thirtieth of the fiscal year preceding that to which the tax relates shall be deemed part of such real property as of January 1.

Or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Board of Assessors)

Moved to adopt Section 40 of Chapter 653 of the Acts of 1989, as printed in your warrant, with the adoption to take effect for fiscal year 2005. *VOTED.*

EXPLANATION: Acceptance of this legislation allows the town to assess new buildings, structures, or other physical improvements that are added to real property between January second and June thirtieth for the fiscal year beginning on the following July 1st. This new construction currently would be assessed a fiscal year later. During the first year there would be an additional 6 months of growth. After that it will be a fiscal year's growth instead of a calendar year's growth.

Selectmen: Recommend
Board of Assessors: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 13. PRESERVATION RESTRICTION FOR THE OLMSTED MEMORIAL CAIRN

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, for and on behalf of the Town of Easton, to enter into a preservation restriction with the Massachusetts Historical Commission to ensure the maintenance, protection and preservation of the property known as the Olmsted Memorial Cairn (a/k/a the Rockery) in order to protect its architectural and historical integrity in perpetuity, said Cairn being located at the intersection of Main, Barrows and Lincoln Streets, and being more fully described in a deed dated April 21, 1970, recorded in the Bristol North Registry of Deeds in Book 1557, Page 1128 on May 19, 1970, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

Moved to authorize the Board of Selectmen, for and on behalf of the Town of Easton, to enter into a preservation restriction with the Massachusetts Historical Commission, as printed in your warrant. *UNANIMOUS VOTE.*

EXPLANATION: A grant has been received from the Massachusetts Historical Commission providing additional funding for the Rockery restoration project. This preservation restriction is required as a stipulation of the grant award.

Selectmen: Recommend
Historical Commission: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 14. REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LEGISLATION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file the following special legislation with the Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF EASTON TO PAY A CERTAIN UNPAID BILL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Town Treasurer of the Town of Easton may pay from available funds to Northeast Reclamation Corp., 95 Turnpike Street, West Bridgewater, Massachusetts an unpaid bill for pavement reclamation and loading of excess materials on Purchase Street incurred by the Town and

totaling a sum not to exceed $61,746.14, notwithstanding the failure of the town to comply with the provisions of law relating to competitive bidding in awarding the contract.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

0r to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

Moved to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file special legislation as printed in your warrant. *VOTED.*

EXPLANATION: Much of the bidding for Easton's supplies and services is done through a regional consortium known as the Southeast Regional Services Group, or SERSG. With respect to the bidding of a specific DPW service, a misunderstanding existed with respect to the quantities that the existing bid authorized. The DPW proceeded with the work, but the quantities exceeded those that were stipulated in the bid documents. The work has been completed, and the funding is available, but special legislation is required to remedy the bidding discrepancy and allow the bill to be paid. The DPW and SERSG have put safeguards in place to ensure that such misunderstandings are not repeated.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommended
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 15. REZONING OF LAND NOW UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the Town of Easton Zoning Map, dated May 19, 2003, (original date: March 7, 1973) and rezone the following properties, owned by the Town of Easton, as follows:

From Residential to Municipal and Open Space.

Map/Lot	Location	Lot Size
R15-16824R	Tanglewood Dr.	4.48 ac
R15-16675R	Concerto Ct.	23.93 ac
R15-16731	Concerto Ct.	36.33 ac
R15-16351	Tanglewood Dr.	3.24 ac
R15-16523R	Lullaby Lane	2.72 ac
R06-10280R	Mill Street	24.40 ac

and to accept the report of the Planning & Zoning Board in relation to this article, or to take any other relative action thereto. (Submitted by Conservation Commission)

Moved to rezone certain parcels of land and amend the Town of Easton zoning map, as printed in your warrant. *ONE OPPOSED. MORE THAN TWO-THIRDS IN FAVOR.*

EXPLANATION: These parcels of land are now owned by the Conservation Commission, and thus should be zoned as municipal and open space.

Selectmen: Recommend
Planning and Zoning Board: Recommend Approval
Vote required to pass: Two-thirds

ARTICLE 16. STREET ACCEPTANCE - LILAC LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, Lilac Lane, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+ 00 to station 6+14.18 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Chestnut Farms" drafted by Ribelin Land Surveys, Inc., dated February 6, 1998 as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on January 13, 1999 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 387 , Page 3 & 4; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, for a conservation easement across Lots 2 & 3, containing 46,607 square feet, a drainage easement across Lots 2 & 3 containing 32,664 square feet, a 20 foot wide utility easement across Lots 3 & 4 and a slope easement situated south of Chestnut Street and west of Lilac Lane containing 9,227 square feet, all as shown on the "Chestnut Farms" Definitive Subdivision Plan and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said way, or take any other action thereto. (Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

Moved to dismiss Articles 16 and 17. ***DISMISSED UNANIMOUSLY.***

EXPLANATION: These streets are not ready for acceptance. The owner did not submit the required plans, legal document and fees.

Selectmen: Recommend Dismissal
Planning and Zoning Board: Recommend DISapproval
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 17. STREET ACCEPTANCE – BARBERRY LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, Barberry Lane, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0 + 00 to station 1+ 92.96 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Chestnut Farms " drafted by Ribelin Land Surveys, Inc., dated February 6, 1998 as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on January 13, 1999 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 387 , Page 3 & 4; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, for a conservation easement across Lots 2 & 3, containing 46,607 square feet, a drainage easement across Lots 2 & 3 containing 32,664 square feet, a 20 foot wide utility easement across Lots 3 & 4 and a slope easement situated south of Chestnut Street and west of Lilac Lane containing 9,227 square feet, all as shown on "Chestnut Farms" Definitive Subdivision Plan and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said way, or take any other action thereto. (Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

DISMISSED. SEE MOTION UNDER ARTICLE 16.

Selectmen: Recommend Dismissal
Planning and Zoning Board: Recommend DISapproval
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 18. AMENDMENT TO TOWN CODE RE: FILLING VACANCIES ON FINANCE COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 22 of the Code of the Town of Easton (Finance Committee), specifically by deleting section 22-2 in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

§ 22-2 The said Committee shall fill any vacancy which may occur in its membership in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 41, § 11, as it may hereafter be amended. (Submitted by Finance Committee)

Moved to amend Chapter 22 of the Code of the Town of Easton, as printed in your warrant. *UNANIMOUS VOTE.*

EXPLANATION: This is to remedy the conflict between town code and state law with respect to the filling of vacancies on the Finance Committee.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 19. AMENDMENTS TO THE PERSONNEL BY-LAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-Laws, **Chapter 59, Personnel**, as follows:

1. **ArticleII, Administration** by inserting a new section 59-7, and renumbering all subsequent sections accordingly, said section 59-7 shall be entitled **Human Resource Board** and shall read as follows:

§ 59-7. Human Resource Board.

I. Composition of Board

A. The Town shall have a Human Resources Board (hereinafter "HRB") consisting of five residents appointed by the Moderator.

B. No member shall be a member of another board or committee or an officer, official or paid employee of the Town.

C. At least two members shall have education and/or experience in human resources or labor relations.

D. The term of office shall be three years, so arranged such that the term of at least one member shall expire each year. The initial membership term shall commence on or before January 1, 2004.

E. Any vacancy in the HRB shall be filled by the Moderator, and any person appointed to fill vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of the person whom s/he succeeds.

F. The HRB shall annually elect its own Chair and Vice-Chair. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall act as Chair.

G. The HRB shall serve without compensation.

H. The HRB shall hold meetings at least once a month or at such times as it may determine.

II. Duties

A. The HRB shall cause to be created a Classification Plan and Salary Plan. They shall prepare a draft request for proposals from consultants with input and advise from the Personnel Director, assist in the review of proposals, make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen regarding contracting with a consultant to create these plans, and shall approve of the methodology used by the consultant in the creation of the plans. They shall submit their recommendations for proposals to the Town Administrator or the Town procurement officer. In the alternative, if a consultant is not hired, the HRB shall create the Classification and Salary Plans.

B. The Classification Plan and Salary Plan created shall set the salary levels and grade ranges of Town municipal employees at the 75th percentile, as compared to the market. Employees paid outside of the ranges for their positions shall be brought into the range. The HRB shall assist the Personnel Director in developing a transition process to accomplish this. Current employees' salaries shall not be reduced as a result of this process.

C. The HRB shall make recommendations to the Personnel Director as to the implementation and administration the Classification and Salary Plans (see items III and IV below), and shall recommend policies and procedures consistent with those Plans, as it deems necessary for the administration thereof.

D. The HRB shall have access to the payroll/salary records of all Town employees maintained by the Town.

E. The HRB shall from time to time review the Salary Schedules of the Town employees. It shall keep informed as to pay rates and policies outside the service of the Town and shall make recommendations to the Personnel Director necessary to maintain a fair and equitable pay level.

F. As frequently as deemed necessary or desirable by the HRB, but not less frequently than every 5 years, the HRB shall direct, assist with and/or conduct salary surveys regarding collection and analysis of data for comparison between Town employees and comparable employees outside the service of the Town. Based on such surveys, the HRB shall recommend changes or adjustments to the Classification and Salary Plans to the Personnel Director.

G. The HRB may recommend to the Personnel Director an entrance rate higher than the minimum rate for a position, and such other variances in the Salary Plan as it may deem necessary for the proper functioning of the services of the Town, upon recommendation of a Department Head, supported by evidence in writing of special reasons and exceptional circumstances satisfactory to the HRB.

H. To the extent possible, the HRB shall assist the Personnel Director in advising all boards, officers and officials regarding compliance with applicable fair employment practice

I. The HRB shall present to the Board of Selectmen, on an annual basis, a report of the salary plan containing a summary of the plan, salary ranges and any adjustments to ranges made that year, summary of any wage survey done, summary of performance based increases given, recommendation of guidelines to be used for the pay plan for the next laws and other applicable state and federal laws and regulations. fiscal year, discussion of any off cycle adjustments recommended and reasons for adjustment. The report shall include an analysis of the Salary Plan for the year including: percentage impact of raises on the budget, average percentage of increases, and distribution of employees falling within various performance levels.

J. The HRB shall undertake a review of all municipal collective bargaining agreements not subject to the authority of the Easton School Department and provide an analysis to the Board of Selectmen of the comparability of the agreements with Town employees and comparable employees outside the service of the Town.

K. Nothing in this article, or the Salary Plan, shall be construed to conflict with Chapter 31 of the General Laws or Easton's Home Rule Charter.

III. Classification Plan

A. A Classification plan is to be created by the HRB.

B. The positions of all officers and employees of the Town (whether full-time, part-time, seasonal, casual, special, Civil Service, or others) other than those positions filled by popular election and those under the direction and control of the School Committee, shall be classified by titles and groups listed in the Classification Plan.

C. The HRB shall maintain written descriptions of the jobs or positions in the Classification Plan, describing the essential characteristics, requirements and general duties of the jobs. The descriptions shall not be interpreted as complete or limiting definitions of any job and employees shall continue in the future, as in the past, to perform any duties assigned by department heads, supervisors, or other authority.

D. The HRB, from time to time, shall review the duties of all positions subject to the Classification Plan. Such reviews shall be made at such intervals, as the HRB deems necessary and, to the extent which the HRB considers practicable, shall include all occupational groups.

E. The HRB may recommend to the Personnel Director a new position to the Classification Plan or reclassification an existing position.

F. The HRB shall transmit the Classification Plan to the Town Administrator who shall then submit it to the Board of Selectmen for approval pursuant to § C-4 (m) of the Town Charter. The Classification Plan shall be implemented and administered by the Town Administrator.

IV. Salary Plan

A. A Salary Plan is to be created by the HRB. Such Plan shall provide minimum and maximum salaries, or single rate salaries, for the groups and positions in the Classification Plan. The salary range, or rate, of a group shall be the salary range, or rate, for all positions classified in the group. B. The HRB shall transmit the Salary Plan to the Town Administrator who shall then submit it to the Board of Selectmen for approval pursuant to § C-4 (m) of the Town Charter. The Salary Plan shall be implemented and administered by the Town Administrator.

2. **Article III, section 59-9, Definitions**, by deleting the paragraph entitled **"Merit Increase"** in its entirety, and inserting a new paragraph entitled **"Performance based increase"** as follows:

"**PERFORMANCE BASED INCREASE** — A percentage increase in pay for an employee who meets the eligibility conditions specified in these policies."

3. **Article IV, Classification Plan, section 59-12 Administration**,

-by deleting the second sentence in the introductory paragraph, which reads: "The Personnel Director is responsible for the classification of all positions." Add the following sentences: "The Human Resources Board shall create the classification plan. The Personnel Director shall implement and administer the classification plan.

-by deleting paragraph **(c) "Classification review"** in its entirety and inserting a new paragraph as follows:

"**(c) Classification review**. The HRB shall review the duties of all positions subject to the Classification Plan. Such reviews shall be made at such intervals, as the HRB deems necessary and, to the extent, which the HRB considers practicable, shall include all classes of positions. The HRB may recommend to the Personnel Director a new position or reclassification of an existing position. The Personnel Director shall annually review all classes of positions in Town service to the end that all classes are reviewed on a three-year cycle. Incumbent employees, supervisors and department heads may request, in any given year, that a specific class or classes be reviewed for applicability to current job conditions and situations and to the extent possible, the Personnel Director will assign priority to such requests. Formal requests for reclassification shall receive priority consideration. There shall be only one reclassification in any twelve-month period for any employee, except in unusual circumstances. In conducting these reviews, the Personnel Director shall meet and consult with supervisors and department heads in the same manner as detailed in Subsection B, above."

4. **Article V, Pay Plan**, by deleting **section 59-14 Development** in its entirety and inserting a new section **59-14 Development** as follows:

"59-14 Development.

The HRB shall be responsible for the development of a uniform and equitable pay plan, which shall consist, for each class of positions, minimum and maximum salaries for the groups and positions in the Classification Plan. The salary range of a group shall be the salary range for all positions classified in the group. The plan shall be submitted to the Personnel Director who shall transmit it to Board of Selectmen for approval in accordance with the Town Charter, § C4-2 (m)."

5. Article V, Pay Plan, by deleting **section 59-16, Administration,** in its entirety, and inserting a new section **59-16, Administration** as follows:

"59-16 Administration

A Appointment rates. An employee appointed to a position should normally be compensated at a minimum rate of pay assigned to the class to which the position is allocated. However original Employment at a salary above the minimum rate may be made upon written certification by the Town Administrator that such action is justified by exceptional qualifications of the applicant or by lack of qualified applicants available at the minimum rate.

B. Pay Plan salary review. The pay plan shall be reviewed by the Human Resource Board as frequently as

deemed necessary, but not less frequently than every 5 years.

C. Performance Based increases. Salary increases within an established range are not automatic but require the attainment of a sufficiently high score on an annual performance review. The eligibility date for a performance based increase shall be on July 1 of each year, provided that the employee has worked at least three full months prior to that date. An employee, who reached the maximum of a particular salary range, may not receive further increases unless the position is regraded. No employee shall be given any increase that would cause them to be paid above their grade range. An employee on leave without pay shall not count such leave toward service for compensation purposes."

(1)The following factors shall not affect eligibility for a performance based salary increase:

(a) Overall pay adjustment resulting from a pay survey.
(b) Transfer within class or within range.
(c) Military leave without pay necessitated by a draft or reserve call-up because of a declared emergency up to 90 calendar days.
(d) A period of paid leave.
(e) Reclassification to a class of the same pay range or lower.

(2) The denial of a performance based salary increase does not necessarily connote less than satisfactory service. To be eligible for a performance based salary increase, it is expected that an employee is performing at a higher than average level.

D. Performance evaluation. For positions covered by formal performance evaluation, see Article VIII for appropriate policy and procedure.

E. Promotion. Upon promotion, the employee's salary shall be set within the range of the higher class at a point, which provides an increase in the employee's previous salary, except that the new salary shall not be more than the maximum rate of the higher classification level.

F. Transfer. When an employee is transferred laterally from a position in one class to a position in another class at the same pay rate, or is transferred with no change in class, she or he shall continue to be paid at the same rate.

G. Reallocation of position to a class in lower pay range. When job evaluation indicates that a position is reallocated to a class in a lower pay range, the current pay of an incumbent is not changed, and said incumbent or incumbents will continue to be eligible for increments up to the maximum of a lower pay range and be eligible for any general pay increases which may be established for all positions in the group affected.

6. **Article V, Pay Plan**, by deleting section **59-19, Longevity pay**, in its entirety. Said amendment shall become effective July 1, 2004.

7. **Article VIII, Performance Evaluation**, section **59-31, Procedure**, paragraph (D), by deleting the words "Merit Increase System" and inserting in their place the words "Performance Based Salary Increase System."

Or take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by the Personnel Plan Review Committee/ Board of Selectmen Subcommittee)

Moved to amend the General by-laws, Chapter 59, Personnel, as printed in your warrant.

Moved to amend Article 19 as follows:

- **Article II Administration, Section 59-7, Human Resource Board, subsection III, Classification Plan, paragraph D, by deleting the words "occupational groups" and replacing them with the word "classes".**
- **Article II Administration, Section 59-7, Human Resource Board, subsection IV, Salary Plan, paragraph A, by deleting the words "or single rate salaries" in the second sentence, and by deleting the words "or rate" twice in the third sentence.**
- **Article IV, Classification Plan, Section 59-12, Administration, paragraph (D), by adding the words "with the exception of Longevity Pay and Pay Plan Annual Increase" after the word benefits in the next to last sentence.**
- **Article VIII, Performance Evaluation, Section 59-30 (c), Purpose, by deleting the word "merit" and replacing it with "performance".**
- **Article VIII, Performance Evaluation, Section 59-31, Procedure, by deleting the word "merit" in the third sentence and replacing it with "performance", and by deleting the word "merit" in paragraph (d) and replacing it with the words "performance based".**
- **Article II Administration, Section 59-7, Human Resource Board, subsection II, Duties, paragraph A, by changing the word "advise" in the second line to the word "advice."**
- **Article II Administration, Section 59-7, Human Resource Board, subsection II, Duties, paragraph C, by inserting the word "of" between the words "administration" and "the" in the second line.**
- **Article II Administration, Section 59-7, Human Resource Board, subsection II, Duties, paragraph I, by deleting the words "laws and other applicable state and federal laws and regulations." in the fifth line.**
- **Article II Administration, Section 59-7, Human Resource Board, subsection III, Classification Plan, paragraph F, by changing reference to §C-4(m) to read §C4-2(m).**
- **These bylaw amendments shall take effect upon the approval, by the Town of Easton voters at the next annual election, of an amendment to section C4-2(m) of the Easton Home Rule Charter.**

Amendments *VOTED.*

Another amendment was made regarding the effective date of January 1, 2004 as follows: Move to amend Chapter 59, Personnel, Article II Administration, Section 59-7, Human Resource Board, paragraph 1, D by deleting the words "on or before January1, 2004" and adding the words "upon the approval by Easton Voters at the next annual election of an amendment to Section 4-2(M) of the Home Rule Charter." *VOTED.*

Another Amendment was made proposing a replacement article. There was a handout distributed to the voters. The highlights of this alternative amendment to the Personnel By-Law are:

Creates a Human Resource Board that is advisory to Personnel Director.

HRB must

Participate in preparation of Classification and PayPlan
Recommend improvements in the administration of the Plan
Identify employees whose salaries exceed recommended range.
Identify the means to bring salaries within recommended range.
Present annual report to Selectmen summarizing work of prior year and recommendations for coming year.

Merit system is eliminated.

Step system is proposed, with increases determined by Town Administrator after consultation with HRB.

Increases would be considered only if salary does not exceed recommended range.

Vacation buy-back is eliminated.

$50 annual increases in longevity payments cease for existing employees.

Longevity payments for new employees brought back to 1989 levels.

Changes effective immediately since Charter change is not needed.

This Amendment was *NOT A VOTE.*

Another amendment was moved: To amend Article 19, Section 1, Article II, subsection 59-7 A & E as follows: 1. Strike the word "Moderator"; 1. Insert "Board of Selectmen". *NOT A VOTE.*

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED – *UNANIMOUS VOTE.*

Selectmen: No Recommendation
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 20. AMENDMENTS TO CHARTER TO AVOID CONFLICTS WITH PROPOSED PERSONNEL BY-LAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter as follows:
1. By deleting section C4-2 (m) in its entirety, and replacing it with the following:

> (m) He shall receive a salary plan and a classification plan from the Human Resources Board. It shall include job descriptions, together with wage and salary schedules, for all departments established by this Charter, Administrative Code or town bylaw, except school department employees. He shall present the Human Resources Board's plans to the Board of Selectmen and they shall become effective within 30 days after submission unless rejected by the Selectmen. He shall perform day to day administration of the salary and classification pan and take all necessary steps to implement the plans.

2. By amending Section C3-2 (d) by inserting the words "Human Resource Board" after Industrial Development Commission.

3. By amending Section C5-2 by deleting the words "Town Administrator" in the third line, and replacing them with the words "Human Resources Board". (Submitted by the Personnel Plan Review Committee/Board of Selectmen Subcommittee)

MOTION: I move to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter by deleting section C4-2 (m) in its entirety, and replacing it with the following:

> **He shall prepare, and revise as necessary, a Personnel Plan establishing personnel requirements. It shall include a Salary Plan and a Classification Plan as developed by the Human Resources Board. The Personnel Plan shall include job descriptions, together with wage and salary schedules, for all departments established by this Charter, Administrative Code, or town bylaw, except school department employees. The Town Administrator shall present the Personnel, Salary and Classification Plans to the Board of**

Selectmen and they shall become effective within 30 days after submission unless rejected by the Selectmen.

VOTED – 5 OPPOSED. MORE THAN TWO-THIRDS IN FAVOR.

Selectmen: No Recommendation
Vote required to pass: Two-thirds

There was a motion to RECONSIDER ARTICLE 19. NOT A VOTE.

ARTICLE 21. FUNDING FOR WAGE AND CLASSIFICATION STUDY

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or appropriate by borrowing under the provisions of MGL Chapter 44 a sum of money to pay for the costs to conduct a wage and classification study of the Non-Union Employees of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by Personnel Plan Review Committee/Board of Selectmen Subcommittee)

Moved to transfer from free cash the sum of $25,000 to pay for the costs to conduct a wage and classification study of the Non-Union Employees of the Town. Funding is contingent upon the approval of the Town of Easton voters at the next annual election of an amendment to Section C4-2(M) of the Home Rule Charter. ***119 YES, 91 NO. MOTION CARRIES.***

EXPLANATION: This article seeks funding to conduct a wage and classification study for the non-union employee group. The last wage study done for this group was completed in August, 1999.

Selectmen: Recommend
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 22. AMENDMENTS TO THE PERSONNEL BY-LAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend its Personnel Bylaw, Section 59-38 Vacation leave, B Carry-over; buy-back, by deleting Sub-section (1), and by substituting a new Sub-section (1) reading as follows: "(1) Vacations shall not be exchanged for cash" or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

AMENDED. Moved to amend the Personnel Bylaw Section 59-38 Vacation leave, B Carry-over; buy-back, by deleting Sub-section (1), and by substituting a new Sub-section (1) reading as follows: "(1) Vacations shall not be exchanged for cash". This was AMENDED by adding "except upon termination of employment." ***MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED WAS VOTED.***

Selectmen: Recommend Disapproval
Finance Committee: Recommend
Vote required to pass: Simple majority

ARTICLE 23. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

The Special Town Meeting was DISSOLVED at 10:17 PM. Total Voters Present – 340.

A true record. Attest: *, Town Clerk*

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof one at each meeting house and post office and one at the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium and one at the Town Offices, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this 3rd day of November the year Two Thousand and Three.

Gerard S. Marsan, Chairman
Jeffrey L. Tufts
Carla A. Goodwin
EASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton, Mass. November 3, 2003
By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

A true copy. Attest:
Janet Andrus Linehan,
Town Clerk of Easton

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

Bristol, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at

Precincts 1, 2, 4 – Easton Jr. High School, Columbus Avenue
Precincts 3, 6 – Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Foundry Street
Precinct 5 – Easton Baptist Church, 197 Bay Road

On TUESDAY, THE SECOND DAY OF MARCH, 2004, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Presidential Primary for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE ..... FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
STATE COMMITTEE MAN ..... NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
STATE COMMITTEE MAN ..... 2ND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN .. NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN ..... 2ND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT
TOWN COMMITTEES ..... .EASTON

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 2nd day of February, 2004.

John S. Haederle
Gerard S. Marsan
Colleen A Corona
Carla A Goodwin
SELECTMEN OF EASTON

February 3, 2004 Easton, Mass.
I have this day posted attested
Copies of this Warrant.

John D Melin, Constable of Easton

A true copy. Attest: Janet Andrus Linehan, Town Clerk of Easton

(Warrant must be posted by February 24, 2004 (at least seven days prior to the March 2, 2004 Presidential Primary)

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY
MARCH 2, 2004

In accordance with the Warrant, the voters of the Town met at their respective polling places on Tuesday, March 2, 2004. The polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following named persons were duly sworn and performed the duties of election officers:

Precinct One – J. Jacques Tremblay, Warden; Robert McLaughlin, Deputy Warden; Albert Becker, Deputy Clerk; John Sullivan, Barbara Takach, Patricia Dooley, Wilfred Roberge, Checkers.

Precinct Two - Maureen Papineau, Warden; Dorothy Conceison, Deputy Warden; Jean Harney, Clerk; Virginia Corte, Irene Roberge, John Papineau, Mary Jane Wood, Checkers.

Precinct Three – Arlene Keach, Warden; Evelyn Carlson, Deputy Warden; Rena Salkovitz, Clerk; Joseph Camara, Deputy Clerk; E. Pamela Corbett, Rose Furlong, Beverly Hanson, Checkers.

Precinct Four – Elizabeth Porter, Warden; Lorraine Anderson, Deputy Warden; Constance Dumoulin, Clerk; Laetitia Tremblay, Deputy Clerk; Nancy Arns, Catharine Becker, Judith Thomas, Checkers.

Precinct Five – Blanche Hicks, Warden; Bennie Moore, Deputy Warden; William McAndrews, Elizabeth Verity, Catherine Bodio, Nicolina Previti, Checkers.

Precinct Six – Mary Norrman, Warden; Anne Marie Martin, Clerk; Susan Henderson, Deputy Clerk; Marilyn Williams, Jean Fisher, Joan Hayward, Checkers.

14,205 Registered Voters **14% Turnout**

The number of ballots cast:

	Pct 1	Pct 2	Pct 3	Pct 4	Pct 5	Pct 6	Total
Democratic Party	197	342	241	316	347	262	1705
Republican Party	29	50	32	52	34	56	253
Libertarian Party	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Green-Rainbow Party	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Total	227	392	274	369	382	318	1962

The result of the Primary election was:

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE							
Richard Gephardt	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Joseph Lieberman	2	1	3	4	2	1	13
Wesley K. Clark	0	4	3	1	0	1	9
Howard Dean	2	8	7	7	4	6	34
Carol Moseley Braun	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
John Edwards	39	71	44	67	76	64	361
Dennis J. Kuchinich	4	6	1	2	5	5	23
John F. Kerrey	145	247	176	233	252	180	1233
Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Al Sharpton	1	1	2	0	2	3	9
No Preference	1	2	4	0	3	1	11
Write-In - Ralph Nader	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Blanks	0	1	0	2	1	0	4
Total	197	342	241	316	347	262	1705

DEM STATE COMMITTEE MAN (SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS 1&2)

Paul D. Sullivan	126	230	[redacted]	356
Write-Ins, Scattering	0	1		1
Blanks	71	111		182
Total	197	342		539

DEM STATE COMMITTEE MAN (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS 3-6)

Steven J. Fradkin	[redacted]	151	172	230	163	716
Write-Ins		0	0	0	0	0
Blanks		90	144	117	99	450
Total		241	316	347	262	1166

DEM STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS 1&2)

Kathleen M. Teahan	120	232	[redacted]	352
Write-Ins	0	0		0
Blanks	77	110		187
Total	197	342		539

DEM STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS 3-6)

Marilyn D. Sullivan	[redacted]	157	180	233	162	732
Write-Ins - Scattering		0	0	1	0	1
Blanks		84	136	113	100	433
Total		241	316	347	262	1166

DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE (THIRTY-FIVE)

Blanks	122	192	143	189	197	152	995
Group	75	150	98	127	149	110	709
Total (Machine Counted)	197	342	241	316	346	262	1704

Blanks	5543	9224	6735	8817	9587	7282	47188
Kane, Robert J	117	224	155	183	196	151	1026
Breton, James F	78	163	105	133	156	115	750
Parker, Andrew J	83	175	106	144	160	116	784
Kligler, Roger M	102	196	114	155	194	125	886
Kent, John J	108	221	114	169	182	132	926
Mahoney, Mark D	79	168	120	139	156	119	781
Kligler, Catherine Whelan	94	185	118	156	193	131	877
Bukoff, Lance	76	164	99	133	152	115	739
Driscoll, Richard M	90	186	113	154	170	124	837
Schivek, Elaine R	77	163	108	132	157	123	760
Cote, Jean H.	81	176	107	141	163	130	798
Kent, Jean M.	103	205	118	163	181	132	902
Santoro, Christine M	86	173	108	146	167	125	805
Barger, Craig	76	167	104	135	158	125	765
Birmingham, James C	88	170	108	145	165	119	795
Write-In - Mullen, Doug	8	5	1	6	1	0	21
Write-In - DunKley, Jennie	2	2	0	2	2	0	8
Write-In - Scattering	4	3	2	7	5	6	27
Total	6895	11970	8435	11060	12145	9170	59675

REPUBLICAN PARTY

REP PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE							
George W. Bush	26	42	30	47	30	55	230
Write-In John Kerry	0	1	0	1	1	0	3

Write-In Peter Twiraga	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Write-In Steve Forbes	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Write-In John McCain	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
No Preference	1	4	1	1	3	0	10
Blanks	1	3	1	2	0	0	7
Total	29	50	32	52	34	56	253

REP STATE COMMITTEE MAN (SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS 1&2)

Lawrence P. Novak	24	45	[redacted]				69
Write-Ins, Scattering	0	0					0
Blanks	5	5					10
Total	29	50					79

REP STATE COMMITTEE MAN (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS 3-6)

John D. Boyle	[redacted]		22	40	28	43	133
Write-Ins			0	0	0	0	0
Blanks			10	12	6	13	41
Total			32	52	34	56	174

REP STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS 1&2)

Rita B. Kechejian	25	44	[redacted]				69
Write-Ins, Scattering	0	0					0
Blanks	4	6					10
Total	29	50					79

REP STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (NORFLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS 3-6)

Mimi Sundstrom	[redacted]		22	42	28	41	133
Write-Ins, Scattering			0	0	0	0	0
Blanks			10	10	6	15	41
Total			32	52	34	56	174

REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE (THIRTY-FIVE)

Blanks	1014	1693	1111	1766	1143	1894	8621
Group	1	57	9	54	47	66	234
Total (Machine Counted)	1015	1750	1120	1820	1190	1960	8855

Blanks	1012	1669	1063	1650	1093	1872	8359
Arns, August	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Arns, Nancy	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Dahlgren, Elaine	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Davis, Janice A.	0	4	2	6	5	3	20
Gladstone, Frederick	0	3	2	7	3	3	18
Goodrich, Andrew	0	3	2	8	3	3	19
Goodwin, Carla A.	0	2	2	6	3	3	16
Hall, Gathry	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Hammond, Charles	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Hayward, Joan M.	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Ierardo, Dino	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Johannesen, Carl	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Keach, John A. Jr.	0	3	3	7	4	3	20
Keach, Arlene	0	2	3	7	4	3	19
Keith, Kent M.	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Leonard, Robert T.	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Martin, Anne Marie	0	3	3	9	4	3	22
Martin, Richard W.	0	3	3	8	3	3	20
McCarthy, Charles	0	3	2	6	3	3	17

Sherback, John	0	3	2	7	3	3	18
Sugrue, Michael	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Tufts, Amberly	0	3	2	6	3	3	17
Tufts, Steven R	0	3	2	6	3	5	19
Williams, Marilyn	0	3	2	6	3	4	18
Tufts, Jeffrey	0	3	2	6	4	4	19
Davis, Clifford	0	4	3	6	6	5	24
Write-In - Ilacqua, Glen	2	0	0	2	2	2	8
Write-Ins - Scattering	1	3	0	1	8	2	15
Total	1015	1750	1120	1820	1190	1960	8855

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

LIB PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE							
Jeffrey Diket	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ruben Perez	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aaron Russo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Michael Badnarik	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gary Nolan	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-Ins	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

LIB STATE COMMITTEE MAN (SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS 1&2)							
Blanks	1	0	[redacted]				1
Total	1	0					1

LIB STATE COMMITTEE MAN (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS 3-6)							
Blanks	[redacted]		0	0	0	0	0
Total			0	0	0	0	0

LIB STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS 1&2)							
Blanks	1	0	[redacted]				1
Total	1	0					1

LIB STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS 3-6)							
Blanks	[redacted]		0	0	0	0	0
Total			0	0	0	0	0

LIBERTARIAN TOWN COMMITTEE (THREE)							
Blanks	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total	3	0	0	0	0	0	3

GREEN-RAINBOW PARTY

G-R PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE							
Kent Mesplay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lorna Salzman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Glover	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
David Cobb	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Write-In John Kerry	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1	1	1	0	3

G-R STATE COMMITTEE MAN (SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS 1&2)

Blanks	0	0	[redacted]				0
Total	0	0					0

G-R STATE COMMITTEE MAN (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS 3-6)

Blanks	[redacted]		1	1	1	0	3
Total			1	1	1	0	3

G-R STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS 1&2)

Blanks	0	0	[redacted]				0
Total	0	0					0

G-R STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS 3-6)

Blanks	[redacted]		1	1	1	0	3
Total			1	1	1	0	3

GREEN-RAINBOW TOWN COMMITTEE (TEN)

Blanks	0	0	10	10	10	0	30
Total	0	0	10	10	10	0	30

A True Record. Attest: Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Town of Easton
Annual Town Election
April 27, 2004

Bristol, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in elections to vote at:

Precincts 1, 2 & 4 – Easton Jr. High School Gymnasium, Columbus Avenue
Precincts 3 & 6 – Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Foundry Street
Precinct 5 – Easton Baptist Church, 195 Bay Road

On TUESDAY, THE TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF APRIL, 2004, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes on one ballot for the following officers:

Two Selectmen for terms of three years;
One Assessor for a term of three years;
Two School Committee members for terms of three years;
One Board of Health member for a term of three years;
One Housing Authority member for a term of three years;
Three Finance Committee members for terms of three years;
One Finance Committee member for a term of two years;
One Finance Committee member for a term of one year

And to vote on the following ballot question:

Ballot Question

Shall the Town of Easton approve an amendment to the Easton Home Rule Charter as proposed by the November 17, 2003 Special Town Meeting adjourned to January 12, 2004, a summary of which appears below?

_____ Yes _____ No

Summary

A proposed amendment to §C4-2 of the Easton Home Rule Charter, which sets forth the powers and duties of the Town Administrator, was passed at the November 17, 2003 Special Town Meeting adjourned to January 12, 2004.

Currently, §C4-2 (m) authorizes the Town Administrator to prepare and to revise, as necessary, a plan establishing personnel requirements including job descriptions and a wage and salary schedule for all town departments and employees, with the exception of school department employees; unless rejected, this personnel plan becomes effective within 30 days after it is submitted to the Board of Selectmen.

The proposed amendment transfers the authority for developing the salary and classification plans to the Human Resources Board and requires the Town Administrator to include these salary and classification plans in the personnel plan. The requirement that the personnel plan be submitted to the Board of Selectmen for approval remains unchanged.

Town of Easton Board of Selectmen

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 22nd day of March, 2004.

Gerard S. Marsan
Jeffrey L. Tufts
Carla A. Goodwin
John S. Haederle
Colleen A. Corona
SELECTMEN OF EASTON

Easton, Mass. March 23, 2004
By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

A true copy. Attest: Janet Andrus Linehan,Town Clerk of Easton

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
Tuesday, April 27, 2004

In accordance with the Warrant, the voters of the Town met at their respective polling places on Tuesday, April 27, 2004. The polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following named persons were duly sworn and performed the duties of election officers:

Precinct One: J. Jacques Tremblay, Warden; Sandra Keach, Clerk; Robert McLaughlin, Albert Becker, Wilfred Roberge, Joseph Quieto, Barbara Takach, Inspectors.

Precinct Two: Maureen Papineau, Warden; Jean Harney, Clerk; Dorothy Conceison, Irene Roberge, Virginia Corte, Patricia Baker, John Papineau, Inspectors.

Precinct Three: Evelyn Carlson, Acting Warden; Rena Salkovitz, Clerk; Joseph Camara, E. Pamela Corbett, Beverly Hanson, Rose Furlong, Inspectors.

Precinct Four: Elizabeth A. Porter, Warden; Constance Dumoulin, Clerk; Lorraine A. Anderson, Laetitia Tremblay, Catharine Becker, David DeVore, Inspectors.

Precinct Five: Blanche Hicks, Warden; Helena Luxton, Clerk; Bennie Moore, William McAndrews, Elizabeth Verity, Nicolina Previti, Patricia Dooley, Inspectors.

Precinct Six: Mary Norrman, Warden; Anne Marie Martin, Clerk; Harvey Blackman, Marilyn Williams, Susan Henderson, Jean Fisher, Estelle Blackman, Inspectors.

Elections Results:

14,331 Registered Voters **6% Turnout**

Total Votes Cast:	Pct 1	Pct 2	Pct 3	Pct 4	Pct 5	Pct 6	Total
	76	241	133	175	147	103	875
Final Election Results: **(Bold type = Elected to Office)**	Pct 1	Pct 2	Pct 3	Pct 4	Pct 5	Pct 6	Total
SELECTMEN (Three Years) (Not more than Two)							
Charles P. King	45	147	83	104	99	65	543
Colleen A. Less	50	144	73	121	111	69	568
Blanks & Scattering	57	191	110	125	84	72	639
Total	152	482	266	350	294	206	1750
ASSESSOR (Three Years) (One)							
Wallace M. Fulcher	56	161	95	126	110	73	621
Blanks & Scattering	20	80	38	49	37	30	254
Total	76	241	133	175	147	103	875
SCHOOL COMMITTEE (Three Years) (Not more than Two)							
Dawn Marie Boynton	46	154	77	120	100	63	560
Jane Pike Benton	49	134	74	111	104	65	537

Blanks & Scattering	57	194	115	119	90	78	653
Total	152	482	266	350	294	206	1750
BOARD OF HEALTH (Three Years) (One)							
Robert J. Kane	54	170	100	134	113	75	646
Blanks & Scattering	22	71	33	41	34	28	229
Total	76	241	133	175	147	103	875
HOUSING AUTHORITY (Five Years) (One)							
Barbara Dolloff-Grattan	26	103	49	77	57	45	357
Dennis Sheedy	29	87	57	70	62	29	334
Blanks & Scattering	21	51	27	28	28	29	184
Total	76	241	133	175	147	103	875
FINANCE COMMITTEE (Three Years) (Not More than Three)							
Richard Coose	44	138	73	100	91	63	509
Patrick A. Goodman	47	134	75	107	100	66	529
Donna A. Lopolito	44	135	73	107	90	62	511
Blanks & Scattering	93	316	178	211	160	118	1076
Total	228	723	399	525	441	309	2625
Finance Committee (Two Years) (One)							
Leonard J. Berkowitz	50	143	84	117	107	62	563
Blanks & Scattering	26	98	49	58	40	41	312
Total	76	241	133	175	147	103	875
Finance Committee (One Year) (One)							
Stephen A. Drown	51	146	87	119	106	61	570
Blanks & Scattering	25	95	46	56	41	42	305
Total	76	241	133	175	147	103	875
Question 1 (HRB Board)							
Yes	70	194	99	135	128	81	707
No	6	42	32	35	17	20	152
Blanks	0	5	2	5	2	2	16
Total	76	241	133	175	147	103	875

A true record. Attest: Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

TOWN OF EASTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 17, 2004

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton in the County of Bristol:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Easton qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium in said Easton on Monday, the 17th day of May, next, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MONDAY, May 17, 2004

The Annual Town Meeting in the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium was called to order by Moderator Richard C. Dailey at 7:17 p.m. with quorum present.

The following counters were duly sworn in by Town Clerk Janet Linehan: Louis Ansello, Michael Boyle, Patricia Hunt, Debra McVay, Michelle Blake, Christine Santoro, Dana Hagopian, Gloria Freitas.

The following non-voters were voted admittance to the hall: DEPARTMENT HEADS: (Per Charter Section 2-4 Shall Attend Town Meeting) Martha L. White, Town Administrator; Janet Andrus Linehan, Town Clerk; Anne Carney, Assistant Assessor; Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant; John L. Nunes, Treasurer/Collector; William Simmons, School Superintendent; Wade Saucier, Health Director; Marc Rousseau, Planner; Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager; D. Mark Trivett, Building Inspector; John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent. OTHER TOWN EMPLOYEES Michael Green, Ed. D., Assistant to Superintendent; Marilyn Gordon, School Business Manager; Robert Smith, School Principal; Gary Mazzola, School Principal; Annalee Bundy, Library Director; Eric Davis, Data Processing; Julie Bertram, Assistant Treasurer. OTHERS: Gary Brackett and Elaine Lucas, Brackett & Lucas, Town Counsel; James J. Hager, Superintendent, Stasia Peters and Patrick Meagher from Southeastern Regional School District. MEDIA: Easton Journal: Sarah Johnson; Media One: Robyn Souza; Enterprise: Vicki Downing. REPRESENTATIVES: State Senator Robert Creedon; State Representative Geraldine Creedon; State Senator Brian Joyce; State Representative David Flynn; State Representative Christine Canavan; Congressman Stephen Lynch. MICROPHONE CARRIERS: Katherine Covett, Amanda Williams, Lauren Henry. (Also Jacob Hopkins who is a registered voter). REQUESTING ADMITTANCE FOR 5/17/04: Fred Ames re Library article.

Recognition was given to Jeffrey Tufts and Carla Goodwin who finished their terms on the Board of Selectmen. Also, a public apology was given to the family of Peter Downey whose name was inadvertently omitted from the memorial list in the 2003 Annual Town Report and to Patricia Webster who resigned from the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 1. ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL REPORTS
To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Assessors, Board of Health, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, School Committee, Town Accountant, Director of Public Works, and other Departments, Boards and Committees of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the Town vote to accept the reports of the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Assessors, Board of Health, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, School Committee, Town Accountant, Director of Public Works, and other Departments, Boards and Committees of the Town.

EXPLANATION: This is an annual vote.

ARTICLE 1 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 2. REVOLVING FUND FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 44, section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for Fiscal 2005, known as the "Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account", which shall be accounted for separately from all other monies of the Town, and to which shall be deposited departmental fees and receipts, to pay for the reasonable costs and expenses, for supplies and services as deemed necessary by the Commission to aid it in making its decisions on such applications, or in enforcement cases where such applications should have been legally filed, or for other such enforcement actions, and for the administrative costs related thereto, with said departmental fees and receipts to be expended without appropriation, and to specify as follows:

1. The revolving fund shall be expended only for the purpose of paying for supplies and services, and the administrative costs related thereto, as deemed necessary by the Commission to aid it in making its decisions on such conservation applications, or on necessary enforcement actions;
2. Only fees and receipts received from applicants for Conservation Permits, or Application for "Requests for Determination", shall be deposited in such account;
3. The Conservation Commission shall be the only Town body authorized to expend such fund, and
4. The amounts expended from Fiscal 2005, "Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account", shall not exceed $35,000.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Conservation Commission

Selectman Haederle moved that the Town vote to authorize the Conservation Commission, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 44, section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for Fiscal 2005, known as the "Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This article is required annually to establish the Conservation Commission's revolving account.

ARTICLE 2 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 3. REVOLVING FUND FOR PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Planning & Zoning Board, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. 44, Section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for Fiscal 2005 known as the "Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees Account", which shall be accounted for separately from all other moneys of the Town, and to which are to be deposited fees received in connection with subdivision approval for application review and inspections during construction, to pay for the reasonable costs and expenses of the Board for expert engineering and consultant services and administrative costs related thereto, as deemed necessary by the Board with said fees to be expended without further appropriation, and to specify as follows:

1. The revolving fund shall be expended only for the purpose of paying for the services of expert engineers and consultants, and related administrative cost, deemed necessary by the Board to pay for the reasonable costs and expenses of application review and inspections during construction; and any other related expenses of the Planning and Zoning Board.
2. Only fees received from applicants in connection with subdivision approval for application review and inspections during construction shall be deposited in such account.
3. The Planning & Zoning Board shall be the only Town body authorized to expend such fund, and;
4. The amounts expended from Fiscal 2005 "Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees" shall not exceed $70,000.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Planning and Zoning Board

Selectman Marsan moved that the Town vote to authorize the Planning & Zoning Board, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. 44, Section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for Fiscal 2005 known as the "Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees Account" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This article is required annually to establish the Planning and Zoning Board's revolving account.

ARTICLE 3 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 4. REVOLVING FUND FOR BOARD OF HEALTH – FOOD INSPECTION SERVICES

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, section 53E 1/2, to authorize the Board o Health to set up a revolving fund for Fiscal 2005, which shall be accounted for separately from all other monies for the Town, to which shall be credited only departmental fees from holders of any food permits to be known as "Food Inspection Services/Education Account", and funds from said account may be paid out to any qualified Food Inspector for Food Service Inspections and/or for educational seminars for food handlers and administrative costs related thereto without further appropriation, and which said authorization to be made upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, and to specify as follows:

1. The revolving fund may be expended for the purpose of paying any qualified Food Inspector for performing inspections, for the purpose of paying for educational seminars for food handlers, and for administrative costs related thereto;
2. Only fees received from properly permitted food establishments shall be deposited in said account;
3. The Board of Health shall be the only body authorized to expend such fund, and
4. The amounts expended from Fiscal 2005, "Food Inspection Services/Education Account", shall not exceed $30,000.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Healt

Selectman Less moved that the Town vote pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, section 53E 1/2, to authorize the Board of Health to set up a revolving fund for Fiscal 2005, known as the "Food Inspection Services/Education Account" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This article is required annually to establish the Board of Health's food service revolving account.

ARTICLE 4 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 5. REVOLVING FUND FOR BOARD OF HEALTH – SEPTIC SERVICES

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 44, section 53E 1/2, to authorize the Board of Health to set up a revolving fund for Fiscal 2005, which shall be accounted for separately from all other monies for the Town, to which shall be credited only departmental fees for witnessing observation holes, percolation tests and other related duties for approval of on-site septic system designs and installations within the Town of Easton to be known as "On-Site Septic Service Account", and funds from said account may be paid out for administrative costs and to any qualified professional, approved by the Commonwealth without further appropriation, and which said authorization to be made upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, and to specify as follows:

1. The revolving fund may be expended for the purpose of paying for administrative costs and for services related to witnessing observation holes, percolation tests and other related duties for approval of on-site septic system designs and installations approved by the Board of Health;
2. Only fees received for work related to septic system design, approval and/or soil exploration shall be deposited in said account;
3. The Board of Health shall be the only body authorized to expend such fund, and
4. The amounts expended from Fiscal 2005 "On-Site Septic Service Account", shall not exceed the total fees and receipts received by the Board of Health, from Board of Health service fees during Fiscal 2005
5. The amounts expended from Fiscal 2005, "On-Site Septic Service Account" shall not exceed $30,000.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Healt

Selectman King moved to dismiss Article 5.

EXPLANATION: The funds proposed to be deposited into this revolving account are needed to balance the operating budget. If this article were to pass, a corresponding decrease would have to be made within the operating budget.

ARTICLE 5 ACTION: DISMISSED UNANIMOUSLY.

RTICLE 6. SUPPLEMENT FY 2004 BUDGETS

o see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of oney to supplement existing budgets for the Fiscal Year 2004 budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

electman Corona moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from the fiscal year 2004 Maturing Debt nd Interest budget the sum of $13,419 to supplement the Town Counsel budget for the Fiscal Year 2004.

XPLANATION: These funds are needed to supplement cost overruns in the legal budget.

RTICLE 6 ACTION: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

RTICLE 7. APPROVAL OF MILITARY PAY ADJUSTMENT

o see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2003, intended to protect the laries of public employees who served or are serving in the Armed Forces, or to take any other action relative ereto.

Submitted by Collector/Treasurer

electman Haederle moved that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2003, tended to protect the salaries of public employees who served or are serving in the Armed Forces.

XPLANATION: By accepting this law, Easton employees who are activated for military service shall be titled to receive pay at his/her regular base salary and shall not lose any seniority or any accrued vacation leave, ck leave, personal leave, compensation time, or earned overtime during such military leave. An eligible nployee shall receive his/her regular base salary for each pay period during his/her military leave of absence, duced by any amount received from the United States as pay for military service, excluding overtime pay, shift fferential pay, hazardous duty pay, or any other additional compensation. In order to qualify, the employee ust be a member of the Army National Guard, the Air National Guard or a reserve component of the Armed rces of the United States. Under this law, the words "active service" shall not include active duty for training the Army National Guard, Air National Guard or as a reservist in the Armed Forces of the United States. This essentially the same practice that the town has been following on a case by case basis.

RTICLE 7 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

RTICLE 8. PAYMENT OF BILLS FROM PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

o see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of oney to pay the cost of bills incurred in a prior fiscal year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

electman Marsan moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of $16,544.75 to y bills from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association, the cost of said bills having been incurred in a ior fiscal year.

XPLANATION: These bills are for insurance deductibles. The Town of Easton has a maximum aggregate eductible of $18,000 per policy year. However, claims originating out of one policy year are generally not ttled for one or two subsequent years. The deductible is not billed until the claim has been settled. MIIA is rrently reviewing its practices to ensure that bills are issued in a more timely manner.

RTICLE 8 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

RTICLE 9. APPROPRIATION OF CHAPTER 90 FUNDS

o see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the state pursuant to apter 246 of the Acts of 2002 the sum of $330,523.00 for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of

public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for t expenditure of said funds, and to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectm

Selectman Less moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the stat pursuant to Chapter 246 of the Acts of 2002 the sum of $330,523.00 for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of said funds.

EXPLANATION: This is an annual vote to appropriate the so-called Chapter 90 funds.

ARTICLE 9 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 10. TRANSFER OF PARCEL FROM SELECTMEN TO SCHOOL COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 40, §15A, to transfer the care, custody and control of parcel of land shown on the Town of Easton Assessors' Map U21 as Lot 129, said parcel being described in deed recorded at the Bristol County Registry of Deeds as Book 1360, Page 269, from the Board of Selectmen the School Committee so that said parcel may be combined with the existing Easton Junior High School propert or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectm

Selectman King moved that the Town vote pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 40, §15A, to transfer the care, custody an control of a parcel of land shown on the Town of Easton Assessors' Map U21 as Lot 129, said parcel being described in a deed recorded at the Bristol County Registry of Deeds as Book 1360, Page 269, from the Board o Selectmen to the School Committee so that said parcel may be combined with the existing Easton Junior High School property.

EXPLANATION: *Refer audience to the exhibit which displays "before and after" conditions.* This is a small parcel, approximately 11,300 square feet, that is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen, but which has been requested by the Municipal Building Committee to be transferred to the jurisdiction of the School Committee to facilitate the school renovation/addition project.

ARTICLE 10 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 11. AMEND FY 2004 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2004 Community Preservation Budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from available Community Preservation Funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Communit Preservation Projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committe

Selectman Corona moved that the town vote to amend the fiscal year 2004 community preservation budget by appropriating from the Community Preservation annual budget reserve, unless otherwise specified, the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2004, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation.

Purpose	**Recommended Amount**
Reserves	
Open Space	$ 46,052.00
Historic Resources	46,052.00
Community Housing	46,052.00
Appropriations	
Community Preservation Administrative Expenses	$ 26,000.00

Reimbursement of Community Preservation Administrative Budget 10,000.00
nded from the unexpended balance of account 14-033-17-5300 (Olmsted Cairn matching funds) voted pursuant Article 12 of the May 19, 2003 Annual Town Meeting adjourned to June 9, 2004.

Restoration of Olmsted Cairn 47,500.00
nded from the unexpended balance of account 14-033-17-5300 (Olmsted Cairn matching funds) voted pursuant Article 12 of the May 19, 2003 Annual Town Meeting adjourned to June 9, 2004.

XPLANATION: This article amends the current year's budget for the Community Preservation Committee. atricia Hunt, chair of the CPA Committee, would like to make a presentation to Town Meeting to further explain is article.

RTICLE 11 ACTION: The dates of the Annual Town Meeting was corrected to read "adjourned to June 2003" in two places in the motion. VOTED

RTICLE 12. REPORT AND FY 2005 BUDGET OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
o see if the Town will vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 005 Community Preservation Budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from ommunity Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds for the administrative expenses of the ommunity Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Community Preservation rojects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any other action relative thereto.
Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

electman Haederle moved that the town vote to appropriate or reserve from Community Preservation Fund nual revenues the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee lministrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2005, with each item be considered a separate appropriation.

roposed fiscal year 2005 community preservation budget

urpose	**Recommended Amount**
ppropriations	
Community Preservation Administrative Expenses	$ 29,000.00
eserves	
Open Space	$ 61,118.00
Community Housing	61,118.00
Historic Resources	61,118.00
FY'05 Annual Budgeted Reserve	398,825.00

XPLANATION: This article proposes the fiscal 2005 budget for the Community Preservation Committee. The ommittee would like to make a presentation to Town Meeting to further explain this article. Patricia Hunt, chair the CPA Committee, would like to make a presentation to Town Meeting to further explain this article.

RTICLE 12 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

RTICLE 13. TAKING OF PROPERTY BY EMINENT DOMAIN FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES
o see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take by eminent domain, pursuant to MGL hapter 79 and Chapter 40, Section 8C, or any other applicable law thereto enabling, for conservation purposes, ny and all interests in certain real property known as 12R Woodland Drive, Easton, Massachusetts, shown on the own of Easton Assessors' Map number 18R as Lot 117 being more fully described in a deed recorded at the ristol County North Registry of Deeds at Book 158, Page 437, said property to be under the jurisdiction and ontrol of the Conservation Commission and to be combined with the so-called Wheaton Farm conservation area r conservation purposes and, further to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing or appropriate by ansfer from available funds a sum of money for said taking, and further that the damages paid for the interests to e taken shall be in accordance with an appraisal of said property, or to take any other action relative thereto.
Submitted by Conservation Commission

Selectman Marsan moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take by eminent domain, pursuant to MGL Chapter 79 and Chapter 40, Section 8C, or any other applicable law thereto enabling, for conservation purposes, any and all interests in certain real property known as 12R Woodland Drive, Easton, Massachusetts, shown on the Town of Easton Assessors' Map number 18R as Lot 117 being more fully described in a deed recorded at the Bristol County North Registry of Deeds at Book 158, Page 437, said property to be under the jurisdiction and control of the Conservation Commission and to be combined with the so-called Wheaton Farm conservation area for conservation purposes and, further to appropriate by transfer from the Conservation Fund the sum of $9,500 for said taking.

EXPLANATION: *Refer audience to exhibit.* This parcel adjoins the Conservation Commission's Wheaton Farm holdings. The last known owner passed away in the late 1800's. The Commission feels that this parcel is key to protecting the integrity of Wheaton Farm and avoiding encroachment of development within the area. Since there are no known heirs, by law the damages will be deposited in an escrow account for a period of three years, after which time, if the funds are not claimed by a legitimate heir, they will be returned to the Conservation Fund.

ARTICLE 13 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 14. AMENDING TOWN CHARTER REGARDING MODERATOR'S COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the general court to enact special legislation to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter as follows subsection C3-3 Moderator: (b) Compensation and substituting a new Article C3-3 (b) as follows: "(b) Compensation: The Moderator shall serve without compensation; except for those elected prior to July 1, 2004 the Moderator shall receive $ 100.00 per annum until the end of his/her current term." Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Finance Committee

Fin Com Chair Stuart Benton moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the general court to enact special legislation to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter as follows subsection C3-3 Moderator: (b) Compensation and substituting a new Article C3-3 (b) as follows: "(b) Compensation: The Moderator shall serve without compensation; except for those elected prior to July 1, 2004 the Moderator shall receive $ 100.00 per annum until the end of his/her current term."

EXPLANATION: Passage of this and the next three articles would eliminate stipends for elected officials, after the officials currently serving complete their current terms.

Moderator Dailey stepped down on this Article. The newly appointed Deputy Moderator Michael Sites took over.

Amendment – To vote to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter by deleting subsection C-3-3 Moderator (b) Compensation and substituting a new Article C3-3 (b) as follows: "(b) Compensation. The Moderator shall serve without salary except that the Moderator serving on the day of adoption of this Section shall receive $100.00 per annum as long as he continues to serve as the Moderator." AMENDMENT – 60 Yes, 252 No - NOT A VOTE

During discussion of this article there were several standing counts calling the question, challenging the voice vote on the amendment and main motion. There was also a request for a secret ballot, but only eleven (11) voters stood in support.

ARTICLE 14 ACTION: Yes 135, No 178. Article Fails

There was a motion to Reconsider Article 14 – Not a Vote.

There was a motion to advance Article 52 – Not a Vote.

ARTICLE 15. AMENDING TOWN CHARTER REGARDING BOARD OF HEALTH COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the general court to enact special legislation to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter as follows subsection C3-7 Board of Health: (b) Compensation and substituting a new Article C3-7 (b) as follows: "(b) Compensation: The Members of the Board

of Health shall serve without salary; except for those elected prior to July 1, 2004 those Board of Health members shall receive $1000.00 per annum until the end of his/her current term." Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Finance Committee

Finance Committee Chairman Stuart Benton moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the general court to enact special legislation to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: Explained under Article 14.

ARTICLE 15 ACTION: Not a Vote.

ARTICLE 16. AMENDING TOWN CHARTER REGARDING BOARD OF ASSESSORS' COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the general court to enact special legislation to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter as follows subsection C3-6 Board of Assessors: (b) Compensation and substituting a new Article C3-6 (b) as follows: "(b) Compensation: The members of the Board of Assessors shall serve without salary; except for those elected prior to July 1, 2004 those Board of Assessors members shall receive $1,800.00 per annum until the end of his/her current term." Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Finance Committee

Finance Committee Chairman Benton moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the general court to enact special legislation to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: Explained under Article 14.

ARTICLE 16 ACTION: NOT A VOTE.

ARTICLE 17. AMENDING TOWN CHARTER REGARDING BOARD OF SELECTMEN COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the general court to enact special legislation to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter as follows subsection C3-2 Selectmen: (b) Compensation and substituting a new Article C3-2 (b) as follows: "(b) Compensation: The Members of the Board of Selectmen shall serve without salary; except for those elected prior to July 1, 2004 those Selectmen shall receive $1,800.00 per annum until the end of his/her current term." Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee Chairman Benton moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the general court to enact special legislation to amend the Easton Home Rule Charter as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: Explained under Article 14.

ARTICLE 17 ACTION: NOT A VOTE.

Motion to Reconsider Articles 15, 16 & 17 – NOT A VOTE.

ARTICLE 18. ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as follows:

Board of Selectmen, each member	$1,800
Board of Health, each member	$1,000
Board of Assessors, each member	$1,800
Moderator	$ 100

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Marsan moved that the Town vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This is an annual article, required by statute, to set the salary levels for all compensated elected officials.

ARTICLE 18 ACTION: VOTED.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER – NOT A VOTE.

ARTICLE 19. CHANGE IN METHOD OF CONTRIBUTION TO SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the fourth paragraph of M.G.L. c. 71, §16B, to reallocate the sum of their required contribution to the Southeastern Regional Vocational-Technical School ("the District") in accordance with the District's regional agreement, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Less moved that the Town vote in accordance with the fourth paragraph of M.G.L. c. 71, §16B, to reallocate the sum of their required contribution to the Southeastern Regional Vocational-Technical School ("the District") in accordance with the District's regional agreement.

EXPLANATION: *Refer the audience to the exhibit.* Under current law, all communities in the Southeastern Regional School District would have to pass this article for it to become effective, a very unlikely event. This article is proposed as somewhat of a symbolic, but meaningful, gesture to express our dissatisfaction with the inequity of the current formula. As you can see, communities pay anywhere from $1,765 to $8,177 per student, with Easton paying the second highest per student rate. We have joined with other communities, most notably West Bridgewater, in an effort to correct this inequity. Legislation has been filed, which our legislators are supporting, to help us in this effort.

ARTICLE 19 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 20. AMENDING TOWN CODE REGARDING FINANCE COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 22 Finance Committee of the Town's Bylaws by deleting Section 22-3 Review and Report on warrant articles, and substituting a new section 22-3 as follows:

"22-3 Powers and Duties: They shall consider any or all municipal questions for the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the Town." Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Finance Committee

Selectman King moved that the Town vote to amend Article 22 "Finance Committee" of the Town's Bylaws by deleting Section 22-3 "Review and report on warrant articles" and substituting a new section 22-3 as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: Passage of this article would allow the Finance Committee to provide recommendations on all warrant articles, not just financial articles, in accordance with Mass. General Law Chapter 39, section 16.

ARTICLE 20 ACTION: VOTED 204 Yes, 119 No.

At this time, Deputy Moderator Sites relinquished the gavel to Moderator Dailey.

ARTICLE 21. SPECIAL LEGISLATION REGARDING TOWN ADMINISTRATOR RESIDENCY

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file the following special legislation with the Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives:

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE EASTON HOME RULE CHARTER

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. That Article 4, section C4-1 of the Easton home rule charter, which is on file in the office of the archivist of the commonwealth, as provided by section 12 of chapter 43B of the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out the fourth sentence of the first full paragraph and inserting in its place the following sentence: He need not be a resident of the town or of the commonwealth at the time of his appointment, but he must establish residence in a city or town that has borders within 25 miles of the boundaries of the town of Easton within 12 months following his appointment.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file special legislation with the Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: The Town Meeting of November 17, 2003 (adjourned to January 12, 2004) approved this change to the Charter, but it was not submitted to the voters in the form of a ballot question as required. Special Legislation, as proposed by this article, will remedy the situation.

ARTICLE 21 ACTION: VOTED.

ARTICLE 22. BUILDING DEMOLITION PERMIT REVIEW BY-LAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Easton, specifically by inserting therein a new chapter, to be inserted as Chapter 114, which Chapter shall be entitled "Building Demolition Permit Review" which chapter shall read as follows:

Chapter 114
BUILDING DEMOLITION PERMIT REVIEW

§114-1. Intent and Purpose

This bylaw is enacted for the purpose of preserving and protecting significant buildings within the Town of Easton that constitute or reflect distinctive features of the architectural, cultural, economic, political, or social history of the town and to limit the detrimental effect of demolition on the character of the town. Through this bylaw, owners of preferably preserved buildings are encouraged to seek out alternative options that will preserve, rehabilitate or restore such buildings, and residents of the town are alerted to impending demolitions of significant buildings. By preserving and protecting significant buildings, this bylaw promotes the public welfare by making the town a more attractive and desirable place in which to live and work. To achieve these purposes the Easton Historical Commission is authorized to advise the Building Inspector with respect to the issuance of demolition permits that are regulated as provided by this bylaw.

§114-2. Definitions

APPLICANT- Any person or entity who files an application for a demolition permit. If the applicant is not the owner of the premises upon which the building is situated, the owner must indicate on or with the application his/her assent to the filing of the application.

APPLICATION - An application for the demolition of a building.

BUILDING - Any combination of materials forming a shelter for persons, animals, or property.

DEMOLITION - Any act of pulling down, destroying, removing, dismantling or razing a building or commencing the work of total or substantial destruction with the intent of completing the same.

BUILDING INSPECTOR - The person occupying the office of Building Inspector or otherwise authorized to issue demolition permits.

COMMISSION - The Easton Historical Commission or its designee.

DEMOLITION PERMIT - The permit issued by the Building Inspector for a demolition, substantial demolition or removal of a building, excluding a demolition permit issued solely for the demolition of the interior of a building.

SIGNIFICANT BUILDING - A building determined by the Commission or its designee to be significant based on any of the following criteria:

- The Building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- The Building has been found eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.
- The Building is importantly associated with one or more historic persons or events, or with the broad architectural, cultural, political, economic or social history of the Town of Easton or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the nation.
- The Building is historically or architecturally important (in terms of period, style, method of building construction or association with a recognized architect or builder) either by itself or in the context of a group of buildings.

PREFERABLY PRESERVED SIGNIFICANT BUILDING - Any significant building that the Commission determines, following a public hearing, is in the public interest to be preserved rather than demolished. A preferably preserved building is subject to the twelve (12) month demolition delay period of this bylaw.

§114-3. **Procedure**

No demolition permit for a building that is in whole or in part seventy-five (75) or more years old shall be issued without following the provisions of this bylaw. If a building is of unknown age, it shall be assumed that the building is over 75 years old for the purposes of this bylaw.

An applicant proposing to demolish a building subject to this bylaw shall file with the Building Inspector an application containing the following information:

- The address of the building to be demolished.
- The owner's name, addresses and telephone number.
- A description of the building.
- The reasons for requesting a demolition permit.
- A brief description of the proposed reuse, reconstruction or replacement.
- A photograph or photograph(s) of the building and photos of neighboring buildings (for context).

The Building Inspector shall within seven (7) business days forward a copy of the application to the Commission. The Commission shall, within fifteen (15) business days after receipt of the application, make a determination of whether the building is significant.

Upon determination by the Commission that the building is not significant, the Commission shall so notify the Building Inspector and applicant in writing. The Building Inspector may then issue the demolition permit.

Upon determination by the Commission that the building is significant, the Commission shall so notify the Building Inspector and applicant in writing with reasons for the determination. No demolition permit may be issued at this time. If the Commission does not notify the Building Inspector within the specified time period, the Building Inspector may issue the demolition permit.

If the Commission finds that the building is significant, it shall hold a public hearing within thirty (30) days of the written notification to the Building Inspector. Public notice of the time, place and purpose of the hearing shall be posted in a conspicuous place in town hall for a period of not less than seven (7) days prior to the date of said hearing, and the applicant and Building Inspector shall be notified in writing of the meeting time and place.

The Commission shall decide at the public hearing or within fourteen (14) days after the public hearing whether the building should be preferably preserved. If agreed to in writing by the applicant, the determination of the Commission may be postponed. If agreed to in writing by the applicant, the public hearing may be continued at a later date.

If the Commission determines that the building is not preferably preserved, the Commission shall so notify the Building Inspector and applicant in writing. The Building Inspector may then issue the demolition permit.

If the Commission determines that the building is preferably preserved, the Commission shall notify the Building Inspector and applicant in writing. No demolition permit may be issued for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of the notification unless otherwise agreed to by the Commission. If the Commission does not notify the Building Inspector within twenty-one (21) days of the public hearing, the Building Inspector may issue the demolition permit.

No permit for demolition of a building determined to be preferably preserved shall be granted until all plans for future use and development of the site have been filed with the Building Inspector and have been found to comply with all laws pertaining to the issuance of a building permit or, if for a parking lot, a certificate of occupancy for that site. All approvals necessary for the issuance of such building permit or certificate of occupancy including without limitation any necessary zoning variances or special permits, must be granted and all appeals from the granting of such approvals must be concluded, prior to the issuance of a demolition permit under this section.

The Building Inspector may issue a demolition permit or building permit for a preferably preserved building within twelve (12) months if the Commission notifies the Building Inspector in writing that the commission finds that the intent and purpose of this bylaw is served even with the issuance of the demolition permit or the building permit.

Following the twelve-month delay period, the Building Inspector may issue the demolition permit.

§114-4. Administration

The Commission may adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary to administer the terms of this bylaw.

The Commission is authorized to adopt a schedule of reasonable fees to cover the costs associated with the administration and review of any application that is filed under this bylaw.

The Commission may delegate authority to one or more members of the Commission and/or may delegate authority to municipal staff, however final determination as to whether the building shall be designated as preferably preserved shall rest with the Commission.

The Commission may pro-actively develop a list of significant buildings that will be subject to this bylaw. Buildings proposed for the significant building list shall be added following a public hearing.

§114-5. Responsibility of Owners

It shall be the responsibility of the owner of record or his designee to assist in the facilitation of the above process by providing information, allowing access to the property, and securing the premises; to participate in the investigation of preservation options and to actively cooperate in seeking alternatives with the Commission and any interested parties.

Upon determination by the Commission that a building or structure is a Preferably Preserved Significant Structure, the owner shall be responsible for properly securing the building, if vacant, to the satisfaction of the Building Inspector. Should the owner fail to secure the building to the satisfaction of the Building Inspector, the subsequent destruction of such building through any cause, which destruction could have been prevented by the required security measures, shall be considered a demolition in violation of this bylaw.

§114-6. Emergency Demolition

In the event that the Building Inspector determines or is asked to consider the condition of a building seventy-fice (75) years or older, the Chairman of the Easton Historical Commission or designee shall be notified to accompany

the Building Inspector during his inspection. The Building Inspector shall pursue all reasonable courses of action to prevent emergency demolition of such a building which the Chairman of the Commission or designee determined is or may be a significant building, included but not limited to requiring the owner to secure it against further danger to the public. Nothing in this bylaw shall restrict the Building Inspector from immediately ordering the demolition of unsafe structures in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 143.

Whenever the Building Inspector issues an emergency demolition permit under this Section he shall prepare a written report with attached photographic evidence describing the condition of said building or structure and the basis of the decision to issue an emergency demolition permit and provide a copy thereof to the Commission.

§114-7. Enforcement and Remedies

The Commission and/or the Building Inspector are each specifically authorized to institute any and all actions and proceedings, in law or equity, as they may deem necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the requirements of this bylaw or to prevent a threatened violation thereof.

Any owner of a building demolished without first obtaining a demolition permit in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw shall be subject to a fine of not more than Three Hundred Dollars ($300.00). Each day the violation exists shall constitute a separate offense until a faithful restoration of the demolished building is completed, or unless otherwise agreed to by the Commission.

If a building is demolished without first obtaining a demolition permit, no building permit shall be issued for a period of two (2) years from the date of the demolition on the subject parcel of land or any adjoining parcels of land under common ownership and control unless otherwise agreed to by the Commission.

§114-8. Historic District Act

Nothing in this bylaw shall be deemed to conflict with the provisions of the Historic District Act, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40C. If any of the provisions of this bylaw do so conflict, that act shall prevail.

§114-9. Severability

In case any section, paragraph, or part of this bylaw is for any reason declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court, every other section, paragraph, and part shall continue in full force and effect.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Historical Commission

Selectman Haederle moved that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Easton, specifically by inserting therein a new chapter, to be inserted as Chapter 114, which Chapter shall be entitled "Building Demolition Permit Review" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: Passage of this article would provide the Easton Historical Commission with an opportunity to review applications for building demolition and, if the building were determined to be historically significant, then the demolition of that building could be delayed for a period of up to 1 year while the Commission works with the building owner to determine if alternatives to demolition are available. The Historical Commission would like to make a presentation to Town Meeting to further explain this article.

Motion to Close Debate 100 Yes, 189 No. Debate Continued.

ARTICLE 22 ACTION: VOTED.

Motion to Reconsider – Not a Vote.

ARTICLE 23. ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUSTEES FOR SCHOOL AND HIGHWAY TRUST FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote under Article 23 of the April 29, 1991 Adjourned Annual Town Meeting, which vote placed the Town of Easton Highway Permanent Fund and the fund for the Support of School in the custody and care of James S. Thomas and Oliver F. Ames, by placing said funds under the custody and care of James S. Thomas and David Ames Jr., with said trustees having the authority to invest and reinvest said funds, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Marsan moved that the Town vote to amend the vote under Article 23 of the April 29, 1991 Adjourned Annual Town Meeting, which vote placed the Town of Easton Highway Permanent Fund and the fund for the Support of School in the custody and care of James S. Thomas and Oliver F. Ames, by placing said funds under the custody and care of James S. Thomas and David Ames Jr., with said trustees having the authority to invest and reinvest said funds.

EXPLANATION: Oliver F. Ames has resigned as a trustee of the Town of Easton Highway Permanent Fund and the fund for the Support of School; this article would fill that vacancy by appointing David Ames Jr. as a trustee.

ARTICLE 23 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

At 10:26 p.m. there was a motion to adjourn to Tuesday, May 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium – Not a Vote.

ARTICLE 24. AMEND THE TOWN CODE TO ALLOW MODERATOR TO DECLARE VOTE

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Easton, specifically Chapter 44 thereof, by inserting therein a new section, to be inserted as § 44-10, which section shall be entitled "Declaration of vote" and which section shall read as follows:

§ 44-10 Declaration of vote

The Moderator may take and declare all votes requiring greater than a majority in the same manner in which he or she conducts the taking of a vote when a majority is required, unless the vote is immediately challenged by seven or more registered voters.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Clerk

Selectman Less moved that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Easton, specifically Chapter 44 thereof, by inserting therein a new section, to be inserted as § 44-10, which section shall be entitled "Declaration of vote" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: When a 2/3, 4/5 or other "super majority" vote is required, and the vote is other than unanimous, the Moderator must count both the yeas and the nays. This vote would allow the moderator to declare the vote as having obtained the necessary majority, even if some nays are expressed, unless challenged by 7 or more voters.

ARTICLE 24 ACTION: Voted.

ARTICLE 25: AMEND THE LOCAL WETLANDS BY-LAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the 'Code of the Town of Easton, Chapter 227, Wetlands Protection', in the following manner:

227-1. Purpose. – add to the end of the paragraph "This Bylaw is intended to utilize the Home Rule authority of this municipality to protect additional resource areas, for additional values, with additional standards and procedures stricter than those of the Wetlands Protection Act, MGL c. 131, § 40, and regulations, 310 CMR 10.00, subject, however, to the rights and benefits accorded to agricultural uses and structures of all kinds under the laws of the Commonwealth."

227-2 Jurisdiction. – line 2 after 'degrade' add …"discharge into"… .

227-3 Exceptions. - Begin with new paragraph to read "A. The application and permit required by this bylaw shall not be required for work performed for normal maintenance or improvement of land in agricultural use as defined by the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations at 310 CMR 10.04. Provided, however, nothing contained within this provision shall prohibit the Commission from exercising its full enforcement powers under this chapter and the Wetlands Protection Act should it determine the activity is not normal maintenance or improvement of land in agricultural use."

Renumber sections 'A., B., C.' to read "B., C., D."

At the end of paragraph C (D if renumbered with new beginning paragraph above – after 'Wetlands Protection Act' delete the words 'shall not apply' add "and regulations, 310 CMR 10.00, shall not apply under this bylaw."

227-4 Application for permit; request for determination; fees; outside consultants. - In paragraph A, at the end of the second sentence, after the word 'environment' insert the following "and the resource areas protected under this chapter".

227-6 Review by other boards and officials. - After Board of Health in line 4, add "Town Engineering Division"; after the words 'immediate review' in line 4, add the following sentences "A copy shall be provided in the same manner to the Conservation Commission of an adjoining municipality, if the application for permit or request for determination pertains to property within 300 feet of that municipality. An affidavit of the person providing notice, with a copy of the notice mailed or delivered, shall be filed with the Commission."

227-7. Issuance or denial of permit; terms of permit.

227-7 A. - After the word 'conditions' in the seventh line add the following sentence "A permit may identify requirements that shall be enforceable for a stated number of years, indefinitely, or until permanent protection is in place, and shall apply to all owners of the land."

227-7 B(1) - Add a last sentence to read "The specific size and type of protected area may be established by regulations of the Commission."

Add the following section '(3)' to "227-7 B":

"To prevent wetland loss, the Commission shall require applicants to avoid wetlands alteration wherever feasible; shall minimize wetlands alteration; and, where alteration is unavoidable, shall require full mitigation. The Commission may authorize or require replication of wetlands as a form of mitigation, but only with adequate security, professional design, and monitoring to assure success, because of the high likelihood of failure of replication.

The Commission may require a wildlife habitat study of the project area, to be paid for by the applicant, whenever it deems appropriate, regardless of the type of resource area or the amount or type of alteration proposed. The decision shall be based upon the Commission's estimation of the importance of the habitat area considering but not limited to such factors as proximity to other areas suitable for wildlife, importance of wildlife "corridors" in the area, or possible presence of rare species in the area. The work shall be performed by an individual who at least meets the qualifications set out in the wildlife habitat section of the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations at 310 CMR 10.60.

The Commission shall presume that all areas meeting the definition of "vernal pool" under this bylaw, including the adjacent area, perform essential habitat functions. This presumption may be overcome only by the presentation of credible evidence which, in the judgment of the Commission, demonstrates that the basin or depression does not provide essential habitat functions. Any formal evaluation should be performed by an individual meeting the qualifications under the wildlife habitat section of the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations."

227-7 D. - Add to the end "Amendments to permits or determinations shall be handled in the manner set out in the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations and policies thereunder."

227-7 E. - Strike the last 6 words – After the words 'Order of Conditions', add 'Order of Resource Area Delineation (ORAD), Determination of Applicability or Certificate of Compliance issued under the Wetlands Protection Act and regulations thereunder."

227-7 F. - Add to the end "If the applicant fails to perform, the Commission may record the documents itself and shall take appropriate enforcement action, including but not limited to an order to cease and desist work."

227-8. Rules and regulations.

227-8 A. - After the words 'of this chapter' add "effective when voted and filed with the town clerk."

227-9 Definitions, A. - Alter - delete entire text of subsection '(9)' and replace with "(9) Changing temperature, biochemical oxygen demand, or other physical, biological, or chemical characteristics of any water."

227-9 Definitions - add to terms the following:

"BANK - the land area which normally abuts and confines a water body; the lower boundary being the mean annual low flow level, and the upper boundary being the first observable break in the slope of the mean annual flood level, whichever is higher.

POND - shall follow the definition of 310 CMR 10.04, except that the size threshold of 10,000 square feet shall not apply.

RARE SPECIES - shall include, without limitation, all vertebrate and invertebrate animal and all plant species listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, regardless of whether the site in which they occur has been previously identified by the Division.

VERNAL POOL - shall include, in addition to scientific definitions found in the regulations under the Wetlands Protection Act, any confined basin or depression not occurring in existing lawns, gardens, landscaped areas or driveways which, at least in most years, holds water for a minimum of two continuous months during the spring and/or summer, contains at least 200 cubic feet of water at some time during most years, is free of adult predatory fish populations, and provides essential breeding and rearing habitat functions for amphibian, reptile or other vernal pool community species, regardless of whether the site has been certified by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. The boundary of the resource area for a vernal pool shall be 100 feet outward from the mean annual high-water line defining the depression, but shall not include a lawn, garden, landscaped area or developed area in existence at the time of the effective date of this provision in this chapter."

227-10. Security

227-10 B. - Add to end "This method shall be used only with the consent of the applicant."

227-11. Enforcement; violations and penalties.

227-11 A. - After the words 'left in place' add "or otherwise fail to restore illegally altered land to its original condition, or fail to comply with a permit or an enforcement order issued pursuant to this chapter."

227-11 B. After the word 'authority' insert the following ", to the extent provided by the constitutions and laws of the United States and the Commonwealth or".

227-11 C. - After the words 'administrative orders' add ", non-criminal citations under MGL c. 40, § 21D, …."

227-15 Appeals. - Delete and replace with "A decision of the Conservation Commission shall be reviewable in the Superior Court in accordance with MGL c. 249, § 4."

Submitted by Conservation Commission

Selectman King moved that the Town vote to amend the 'Code of the Town of Easton, Chapter 227, Wetlands Protection' as printed in your warrant

EXPLANATION: These amendments are designed to update the Town wetlands by-law to keep it in line with the model by-law of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions. The changes relate to notice requirements, and technical amendments. No new resource areas or performance standards are created.

ARTICLE 25 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 26. AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY LAW REGARDING SIGNS

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting March 27, 1973 and amended through November 17, 2003, by amending Section X – SIGNS. The specific amendments relate to Section 10-2 DEFINITIONS and Section 10-3 GENERAL PROVISIONS. Within Section 10-2 DEFINITIONS, the definition for "Electronic Message Center" will be modified and "Changeable Copy Sign (Automatic & Manual)" will be replaced with a definition for "Changing Image Sign". Within Section 10-3 GENERAL PROVISIONS, "Changing Image Sign" will be included as a type of sign prohibited under Section 10.3 (1). Also, Section 10.3 (6) will be deleted in its entirety to strengthen the enforcement of Section X. This current language reads: "6. CHANGEABLE COPY Unless otherwise specified by this By Law, any sign herein allowed may use manual or automatic changeable copy."

The amended Zoning By-Law language would read as follows:

SECTION X – SIGNS, 10-2 DEFINITIONS

ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER

Any message board, where scrolling or moving copy or images are shown on the same message board or any sign which changes its copy or images electronically, mechanically, digitally, through the use of projection or computer generation.

CHANGING IMAGE SIGN

Any sign that, through the use of moving structural elements, flashing or sequential lights, lighting elements, or other automated method, results in movement, the appearance of movement or change of sign image or message. This type of sign includes, but is not limited to, Electronic Message Center signs which are either attached or detached. Changing image signs do not include school zone or other public safety signs and otherwise static signs where copy is changed manually in the field and where illumination is turned off and back on not more than once every twenty-four (24) hours.

SECTION X –SIGNS, 10-3 GENERAL PROVISIONS

It shall hereafter be unlawful for any person to erect, place, or maintain a sign in the Town of Easton except in accordance with the provisions of this By Law.

1. SIGNS PROHIBITED

The following types of signs are prohibited in all districts:

(a) Abandoned signs.
(b) Any sign which by reason of its location, shape, size or color, will interfere with traffic signs, signals, or markings.
(c) Signs imitating or resembling official traffic or government signs or signals.
(d) Snipe signs or signs attached to trees, utility poles, streetlights, or placed on public property or public right-of-way.
(e) Flashing, animated or neon lighted signs.
(f) Portable signs.
(g) Other signs specifically excluded by this By Law
(h) Signs attached to motor vehicles, trailers or other movable objects regularly or recurrently located for fixed display.
(i) Changing Image Sign.

and to accept the report of the Planning and Zoning Board in relation to this article, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

Petitioner Alice McCarthy moved that the Town vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting March 27, 1973 and amended through November 17, 2003, by amending Section X – SIGNS as printed in your warrant

EXPLANATION: These proposed amendments to the sign by-law are the result of a collaborative effort by the Planning and Zoning Board, Town Planner, Building Inspector and a group of citizens concerned about the proliferation of so-called changing image signs and electronic message centers. By state law, existing signs would be grandfathered, but no additional such signs will be permitted if this by-law passes.

ARTICLE 26 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 27. AMENDMENT TO ZONING MAP TO REZONE TOWN-OWNED LAND

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the November 17, 2003 Town of Easton Zoning Map (original date: March 7, 1973) and rezone the following properties, owned by the Town of Easton, as follows:

From Residential to Municipal and Open Space.

Map/Lot	Location	Lot Size	Jurisdiction
U17-172	15 Pond Street	19.235 acre	Conservation Commission
U38-062	288 Depot Street	5.47 acre	Conservation Commission
U09-084	39 Arborway	33.43 acre	Conservation Commission
R08-403	32 Dunbar Drive	10.4 acre	Conservation Commission
R07-223	43 Dunbar Drive	5.1 acre	Conservation Commission
R08-402	303 Bay Road	13,939 Square Feet	Cemetery Commission

and to accept the report of the Planning & Zoning Board in relation to this article, or take any relative action thereto.

Submitted by Conservation Commission

Selectman Haederle moved that the Town vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the November 17, 2003 Town of Easton Zoning Map (original date: March 7, 1973) and rezone certain properties owned by the Town of Easton as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: *Refer the audience to the exhibit.* These six parcels of land gifted to the Town of Easton need their zoning classification changed from Residential to Municipal and Open Space to reflect current ownership and land use. Of particular note, the Arborway open space parcel was created from within the recently approved Open Space Residential Development known as "Dorchester Brook Estates" situated off of Elm Street. The Dunbar Drive open space parcels were created from within the recently approved Adult Retirement Development known as "Fox Hill" located off of Bay Road.

ARTICLE 27 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 28. AMENDMENT TO ZONING MAP TO EXPAND AQUIFER PROTECTION DISTRICT

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the November 17, 2003 Town of Easton Zoning Map (original date: March 7, 1973) to expand the boundaries of the existing Aquifer Protection District overlay to include the Department of Environmental approved Zone II for Pumping Station #6. Generally, the proposed overlay expands the Aquifer Protection District along portions of the current easterly boundary (located east of Bay Road) to the Five Corners area; then northeast to a point south of the existing power line; then northwest to the Beaver Dam Road area; then southwest to Routes 106/123 (just west of South Street); then southerly (all along the current west boundary line) to the Norton/Easton town line, and further to see if the Town will vote to accept the report of the Planning & Zoning Board in relation to this article,
or take any relative action thereto.

Submitted by Planning & Zoning Board

Selectman Marsan moved that the Town vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the November 17, 2003 Town of Easton Zoning Map (original date: March 7, 1973) to expand the boundaries of the existing Aquifer Protection District overlay to include the Department of Environmental approved Zone II for Pumping Station #6, as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: The Town of Easton, in its continual effort to protect its water supply, delineated a "Zone II" Well Protection Zone as a result of a study conducted for Pump Station # 6 at Wheaton Farm on Bay Road. This "Zone II" is larger than the current Aquifer Protection District, whereas the boundaries of the Aquifer Protection District should coincide with the Zone II. Expanding the boundaries of the Aquifer Protection District to match the Zone II will allow the Town to more adequately protect our valuable groundwater.

The Aquifer Protection District is an overlay zoning district created to protect the drinking water supply from land uses that could be detrimental to ground water supplies. Certain commercial and industrial uses are prohibited and others are more closely regulated than in non-aquifer areas. Residential uses are not affected by the aquifer overlay district.

ARTICLE 28 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 29. AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY-LAW REGARDING STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting, March 27, 1973 and amended through November 17, 2003, specifically by amending Section XI – Environmental Performance Standards with the insertion of a new sub-section 11-2 dealing with Stormwater Management. Section 11-2 Stormwater Management shall include the following:

The purpose of Stormwater Management is to eliminate non-stormwater discharges to the municipal storm drainage system and also to eliminate or reduce the adverse effects of soil erosion and sediments from contaminating our watercourses.

A. Storm Drainage System – Prohibited activities are as follows:

    1. Illicit Discharges – No person shall dump, discharge, cause or allow to be discharged any pollutant or non-stormwater discharge into the storm water drainage system, into a watercourse, or into the waters of the United States and/or Commonwealth.
    2. Illicit Connections – No person shall construct, use, allow, maintain or continue any illicit connection to the municipal drainage system, without the written approval of the Board of Selectmen.
    3. Obstruction of Municipal Storm Drains – No person shall obstruct or interfere with the normal flow of stormwater into or out of the municipal storm drainage system.

B. Erosion and Sediment Control - No person shall excavate, cut, grade, or perform any land disturbing activities greater than one acre without a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from the Environmental Protection Agency which shall include an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan approved by the Planning & Zoning Board. The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan shall be prepared by a Registered Professional Engineer and include but not necessarily limited to the following:

    1. Name, address and telephone number of Owner, Civil Engineer, and person responsible for the implementation of the plan.
    2. Show all existing and proposed stormwater utilities, including structures, pipes, swales, and detention/retention basins.
    3. Erosion and sediment control provisions to minimize on-site erosion and prevent off-site sediment transport, including provisions to preserve top soil and its limits of disturbance.
    4. Design details for both temporary and permanent erosion control structures.
    5. A sequence of construction of the development site, including stripping and clearing; rough grading; construction of utilities; infrastructure, and buildings; and final grading and landscaping. Sequencing shall identify the expected date on which clearing will begin, the estimated duration of exposure of cleared areas, areas of clearing, and establishment of permanent vegetation.

6. Any additional information and/or data which as deemed appropriate to ensure compliance with the Subdivision Rules & Regulations, Site Plan requirements, or the preservation of public health and safety.

C. Enforcement

1. When it is determined that an illicit discharge to the municipal drainage system has occurred and/or erosion and sediment control is not being carried out in accordance with the approved Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, a written notice ordering an immediate cessation of any act or condition in violation of this By-Law shall be issued by the Building Inspection Department.
2. Any owner, who makes an unauthorized connection to the municipal drainage system and/or Illicit Discharges emanate from his/her property because of inadequate erosion and sediment control, shall be subject to a fine of $100 dollars per day for each day that the unauthorized connection and/or Illicit Discharge continues after proper Notice thereof is given by or at the direction of the Board of Selectmen.

And to accept the report of the Planning and Zoning Board in relation to this Article, or to take any other action relative thereto

Submitted by Planning & Zoning Board

Selectman Less moved that the Town vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting, March 27, 1973 and amended through November 17, 2003, specifically by amending Section XI – Environmental Performance Standards with the insertion of a new sub-section 11-2 dealing with Stormwater Management, as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: In 2001, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency mandated that communities develop a stormwater management program as part of a comprehensive plan to protect water resources. The intent of the program is basically two-fold:

1. To prevent illicit connections and unauthorized discharges to the drainage system; and

2. To require that construction activities institute proper controls to prevent erosion and sediments from contaminating our waterways.

This zoning amendment before you this evening incorporates these federally mandated stormwater management standards within the Easton Zoning By-Law.

ARTICLE 29 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 30. TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the fiscal year 2004 Reserve Fund (account number 01-013-02-5700) for the purpose of funding an audit of enrollees on the Town's health insurance program, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Finance Committee

Selectman King moved that the Town vote to transfer the sum of $4,200 from the fiscal year 2004 Reserve Fund (account number 01-013-02-5700) for the purpose of funding an audit of enrollees on the Town's health insurance program.

EXPLANATION: At the request of the Finance Committee, quotations were solicited for an audit to be conducted of the enrollees on the town's health care program to ensure that only eligible active employees and retirees are enrolled. The cost of this audit will be $4,200.

ARTICLE 30 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 31. ACCEPTANCE OF UTILITY EASEMENT – 12 CAMDEN WAY

To see if the Town will vote to accept a 25' wide Utility Easement, said easement having an area of 6,863 square feet and being located on land of Kim M. Duke as shown on a plan entitled "Utility Easement Plan, 12 Camden Way, Easton, MA, Surveyed for Creative Homes, Inc., Surveyed by Ribelin Land Surveyors, Inc. 301 West Center Street, West Bridgewater, MA, Dated: February 2, 2004, Revised April 13, 2004" or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the Town vote to accept a 25' wide Utility Easement, said easement having an area of 6,863 square feet and being located on land of Kim M. Duke at 12 Camden Way, as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: *Refer audience to exhibit.* In order to maintain water quality and water pressure, it is a high priority for the Water Division and the Planning and Zoning Board that new water mains be looped back into an existing water main, as opposed to dead-ended. In conjunction with the subdivision known as Lexington Estates, the developer was required to loop the water main from Camden Way out to Depot Street. This article proposes the first segment of this looping; the next article proposes the second segment.

ARTICLE 31 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 32. ACCEPTANCE OF UTILITY (WATER MAIN) EASEMENT – 371 DEPOT STREET

To see if the Town will vote to accept a 20' wide Water Main Easement, said easement having an area of 6,681 square feet and being located on land of Creative Homes Inc. as shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Water Main Easement, 371 Depot Street, Easton, MA, Surveyed for Creative Homes, Inc., Surveyed by Ribelin Land Surveyors, Inc. 301 West Center Street, West Bridgewater, MA, Dated: January 26, 2004, Revised April 12, 2004" or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Haederle moved that the Town vote to accept a 20' wide Water Main Easement, said easement having an area of 6,681 square feet and being located on land of Creative Homes Inc. located at 371 Depot Street, as printed in your warrant

EXPLANATION: *Refer audience to exhibit.* As noted in the prior article, this easement is needed for a new water main.

ARTICLE 32 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Motion to Advance Article 52 – 130 Yes, 130 No – Not Advanced.

ARTICLE 33. ACCEPTANCE OF EASEMENT FOR LIBRARY ACCESS ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept or purchase both a temporary easement for construction purposes and a permanent easement for access purposes, both across land owned by Douglas A. King located at 33 Lincoln Street, as shown on Assessor's Map U16 as Lot 15, and further to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purchase of said easements, and further that the purchase price paid for said easements shall be no greater than the value stipulated by appraisal, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Library Directors

Selectman Marsan moved to Table Article 33.

EXPLANATION: The details necessary to present this proposal to Town Meeting have not been finalized.

ARTICLE 33 ACTION: Voted to Table.

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO 5/25/04 AT 7PM OAHS AUDITORIUM. VOTED AT 10:55 P.M. Total Voters Present – 435.

A true Record. Attest: Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

NOTICE OF ADJOURNED ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Tuesday, May 18, 2004

Be it known that the Annual Town Meeting on Monday, May 17, 2004 was duly adjourned to

TUESDAY, MAY 25TH SEVEN O'CLOCK P.M.

In the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium to see what action the town will take in respect to:

ARTICLES 33 - 55, inclusive

And any all matters that may legally come before the meeting.

Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

Adjourned Annual Town Meeting
Tuesday, May 25, 2004

The Adjourned Annual Town Meeting in the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium was called to order at 7:14 p.m. by Moderator Richard C. Dailey with quorum present.

The following additional counters were duly sworn by Town Clerk Janet Linehan: Dawn Boynton, Jonathan Richman, Kevin Paicos, Marie Pires and James Elson.

The following additional non-voters were voted admittance to the hall: William Gouveia, Easton Journal; Sam Protentiss, Boy Scout; Michiharu Oshima,117 Randall Street (Non-Citizen); George Keenan, 10 Park Street (Not Registered); Madeline Holt, Assistant Library Director; Neil Levine, Maguires; Jerome Burke, Southeastern Regional School.

There was a motion to table Articles 33, 34 & 35 until after the vote on Article 52. **VOTED.**

ARTICLE 33. ACCEPTANCE OF EASEMENT FOR LIBRARY ACCESS ROAD
To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept or purchase both a temporary easement for construction purposes and a permanent easement for access purposes, both across land owned by Douglas A. King located at 33 Lincoln Street, as shown on Assessor's Map U16 as Lot 15, and further to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purchase of said easements, and further that the purchase price paid for said easements shall be no greater than the value stipulated by appraisal, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Library Directors

Selectman Marsan moved to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept both a temporary easement for construction purposes and a permanent easement for access purposes, both easements being across land owned by Douglas A. King located at 33 Lincoln Street, said easements being depicted on a plan entitled "King Property Easement Plan" prepared for the Town of Easton by Judith Nitch Engineering Inc. and dated May 7, 2004.

EXPLANATION: This easement is necessary for construction of the library access road from Lincoln Street. When the additional land for the library expansion project was acquired, access to and from Lincoln Street was not contemplated; the land was purchased just to accommodate the addition to the library. But during the design review process, the public safety benefits of such access became very clear. However, due to a large wetland area, the driveway needs to encroach upon Mr. King's property at 33 Lincoln Street. While the details have not been finalized, present discussions with Mr. King involve either a gift of easement from Mr. King to the Town, or an exchange of this easement for the easement described in Article 35. No funds are being appropriated under this article.

ARTICLE 33 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 34. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR LIBRARY ACCESS ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to purchase, acquire or take by eminent domain, pursuant to MGL Chapter 79 and Chapter 40, or any other applicable law, any and all interests in certain real property known as 37 Lincoln Street, Easton, Massachusetts, shown on the Town of Easton Assessors' Map number U16 as Lot 15A, being more fully described in deed recorded at the Bristol County North Registry of Deeds at Book 1639, Page 859; such acquisition will facilitate a safer configuration for the proposed access drive from Lincoln Street to the Ames Free Library/Easton's Public Library by locating it directly across from Day Street, and further to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money for said purchase or taking, and further that the amount paid for the interests to be acquired shall be in accordance with an appraisal of said property, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Library Directors

SELECTMAN Corona moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to purchase, acquire or take by eminent domain, pursuant to MGL Chapter 79 and Chapter 40, or any other applicable law, any and all interests in certain real property known as 37 Lincoln Street, Easton, Massachusetts, shown on the Town of Easton Assessors' Map number U16 as Lot 15A, being more fully described in deed recorded at the Bristol County North Registry of Deeds at Book 1639, Page 859; such acquisition will facilitate a safer configuration for the proposed access drive from Lincoln Street to the Ames Free Library/Easton's Public Library by locating it directly across from Day Street, and further to appropriate by transfer from the Overlay Reserve account the sum of $15,000 for said purchase or taking, said amount being the value of the property in accordance with an appraisal performed at the request of the Town.

EXPLANATION: *Refer audience to exhibit.* Acquisition of this property will facilitate a much safer access to the library from Lincoln Street. The acquisition is supported by the Board of Selectmen, Board of Library Directors, Traffic Safety Committee and Capital Planning Committee. The Traffic Safety Committee, which is comprised of the Police Chief, Fire Chief and DPW Director, wrote:

"The Traffic Safety Committee reviewed the plans for the proposed library access road off of Lincoln Street. In the original plans the access road is located east of Day Street. This would create a second intersection within close proximity to Day Street. Vehicles pulling out of the access road and or Day Street onto Lincoln Street would be forced to stop immediately for turning traffic. As a committee we feel that the best option would be for the library access road to be built directly opposite Day Street. This would create just one intersection. It would result in better access for emergency vehicles, snow removal operations, as well as regular vehicular traffic. If the Town of Easton has the ability to acquire the land directly opposite Day Street it would result in providing a safer access road to the library."

In fact, for safety reasons, Easton's zoning by-law prohibits parking lot driveways from being located within 50' from an intersecting street. A variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals was obtained to allow this project to proceed, but the ZBA was very clear that it prefers the town to acquire this property so that the driveway can be configured across from Day Street.

ARTICLE 34 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 35. GRANTING OF EASEMENT OVER LIBRARY ACCESS ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant an access easement to Douglas A. King over land owned or to be owned by the Town of Easton, to the extent necessary to access property owned by said King located at 33 Lincoln Street, said easement to be located on land shown on the Town of Easton Assessors' Map number U16 as Lot 159 and/or land shown on Assessors' Map number U16 as "Theater Way" and/or land shown on Assessors' Map number U16 as Lot 15A; the authority to grant said access easement being contingent upon successful negotiations with respect to the conveyance of the easements described in Article 33 of this warrant, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Library Directors

SELECTMAN Marsan moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant a non-exclusive access easement to Douglas A. King over land owned or to be owned by the Town of Easton, only to the extent necessary to access property owned by said King located at 33 Lincoln Street, said easement to be located on land shown on the Town of Easton Assessors' Map number U16 as Lot 159 and/or land shown on Assessors' Map number U16 as "Theater Way" and/or land shown on Assessors' Map number U16 as Lot 15A; the authority to grant said access easement being contingent upon successful negotiations with respect to the conveyance of the easements described in Article 33 of this warrant.

EXPLANATION: As described under Article 33, the Town is negotiating with Doug King regarding the possible exchange of easements that will facilitate the creation of an access road to the library from Lincoln Street, a much safer egress point than the Main Street driveway. The details have yet to be worked out, and the specific location has yet to be determined but will be within the areas described in the motion.

ARTICLE 35 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 36. FY 2005 OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer, such sums as may be necessary to defray the Town charges for the ensuing Fiscal Year including the salaries of the several elected and appointed officers of the Town, and make appropriations for same, or take any other action relative thereto. (See Budget to be distributed at Town Meeting).

Submitted by Town Administrator

EXPLANATION: This is the fiscal year 2005 operating budget.

The following line items were held by the Finance Committee for discussion during the budget presentation:

FD-DPT	DEPARTMENT NAME	ORIG REQUEST	FIN COM	AMT APPROVED
01-003	Selectmen	$ 281,913	$ 227,452	$ **227,452**
01-011	Finance Committee	3,500	3,000	**3,000**
01-025	Accountant	155,724	152,683	155,724
01-039	Town Clerk	216,114	211,625	216,114
01-110	Land Use & Permitting	436,394	426,878	436,394
01-225	Southeastern Regional School	431,833	410,925	410,925
01-501	Board of Health	207,688	206,688	207,688
01-551	Veterans Department	157,459	151,346	157,459
01-600	Recreation Department	97,411	91,411	**91,411**
01-750	Employee Benefits & Insurance	7,521,172	7,491,172	7,521,172
61-500	Water Division	2,058,022	2,038,022	2,058,022

The reductions in the budget were all to be added back to the Stabilization Fund.

ARTICLE 36 ACTION: (AMENDED) Selectman Corona moved that the Town appropriate the sum of $46,781,273 of which $43,234,474 shall be raised by taxation, $339,039 shall be transferred from the Stabilization Fund, $229,229 shall be transferred from the Pension Reserve Fund, $116,966 shall be transferred from the Conservation Fund, $70,000 shall be transferred from the Planning and Zoning Board Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees Account, $30,000 shall be transferred from the Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account, $24,000 shall be transferred from the Board of Health Food Inspection Services/Education Account, $2,605,775 shall be transferred from water receipts, $50,000 shall be transferred from the Sale of Real Estate Account, $67,665 shall be transferred from account 01-303-15-6099 voted pursuant to Article 1 of the special town meeting on January 13, 2003, $4,125 shall be transferred from account 01-303-15-6100 voted pursuant to Article 1 of the special town meeting on January 13, 2003 and $10,000 shall be transferred from account 01-303-15-6106 voted pursuant to Article 16 of the annual town meeting adjourned to June 9, 2003, all to meet the Town charges, including salaries and expenses for the fiscal year 2005 as follows: **UNANIMOUS VOTE AS AMENDED.**

FD-DPT	DEPARTMENT NAME	TOTAL
01-003	SELECTMEN	227452
01-007	TOWN COUNSEL	200,000
01-011	FINANCE COMMITTEE	3,000
01-013	RESERVE FUND	25,000
01-025	ACCOUNTANT	155,724
01-029	ASSESSORS	181,545
01-033	TOWN COLLECTOR/TREASURER	262,356

01-039	TOWN CLERK	216,114
01-051	DATA PROCESSING	211,077
01-101	POLICE	2,934,581
01-103	FIRE	2,215,912
01-104	AMBULANCE	348,971
01-105	FIRE ALARM	26,515
01-110	LAND USE & PERMITTING	436,394
01-225	SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL	431,833
01-300	DPW ADMINISTRATION	2,036,984
01-501	BOARD OF HEALTH	207,688
01-531	COUNCIL ON AGING	173,389
01-551	VETERANS DEPARTMENT	157,459
01-600	RECREATION DEPARTMENT	91,411
01-625	LIBRARY	381,740
01-700	MATURING DEBT & INTEREST	2,992,669
01-750	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & INSURANCE	7,521,172
01-760	OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT	101,175
61-500	WATER DIVISION	2,058,022
	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	23,183,090
	TOTAL FY 2005 BUDGET	46,781,273

ARTICLE 37. FY 2005 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of meeting the capital budget needs of the Town for Fiscal Year 2005, or take any other action relative thereto.
(See Budget to be distributed at Town Meeting)

Submitted by Capital Planning Committee/Town Administrator

Selectman Haederle moved that the Town appropriate the sum of $1,020,000 and that to meet this appropriation, $257,000 shall be transferred from Overlay Surplus, $163,000 shall be transferred from Water Surplus and the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow $600,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44 and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out these projects for the purposes listed below:

DPW Backhoe	$ 82,000
DPW 6-Wheel Dump Truck w/ Sander & Plow	85,000
DPW Utility Van	30,000
Fire Alarm Bucket Truck	25,000
Fire Department 4-Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle	35,000
Water Dump Truck	75,000
Water Van	23,000
Water Pickup Truck	20,000
Water – Upgrade SCADA System	45,000
Water – Meter Replacement Program	600,000
Total:	$1,020,000

EXPLANATION: This is the fiscal year 2005 capital budget.

ARTICLE 37 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

There was a motion to advance Article 52. This motion was not seconded.

ARTICLE 38. ACCEPTANCE OF DRAINAGE EASEMENT – MASSAPOAG AVENUE

To see if the Town will vote to accept an easement for drainage purposes, said easement having an area of 1,000 square feet and being situated on the westerly side of Massapoag Avenue on land of the Barske Nominee Trust, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Marsan moved that the Town vote to accept an easement for drainage purposes, said easement having an area of 1,000 square feet and being situated at 240 Massapoag Avenue on land of the Barske Nominee Trust.

EXPLANATION: *Refer audience to exhibit.* As part of the drainage for Massapoag Avenue, the town installed a catch basin on this property. An easement is needed to protect the interests of both the town and the property owner.

ARTICLE 38 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

There was a motion to move Articles 39 through 47 as printed in the warrant with one motion. **Articles 39 through 47 were UNANIMOUSLY VOTED .**

ARTICLE 39. STREET ACCEPTANCE – SYMPHONY DRIVE

To see if the town will vote to accept the following named street or way, SYMPHONY DRIVE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 19+96.82 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Tanglewood Estates Definitive Subdivision of Land in Easton, MA" drafted by Gallagher Engineering Civil Engineers/Land Surveyors, dated February 19,1999 as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on October 6, 1999 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 383, Pages 35 through 41; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, for a drainage, access, utility, and pedestrian easement across Lots 11, 24, and 25 containing 36,943 square feet, as shown on the previously referenced "Tanglewood Estates Definitive Subdivision Plan;" and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said SYMPHONY DRIVE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Less moved that the town vote to accept SYMPHONY DRIVE as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 19+96.82 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Tanglewood Estates Definitive Subdivision of Land in Easton, MA" as printed in your warrant

EXPLANATION: This is a routine street acceptance.

ARTICLE 39 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 40. STREET ACCEPTANCE – HARMONY LANE

To see if the town will vote to accept the following named street or way, HARMONY LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 7+39.33 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Tanglewood Estates Definitive Subdivision of Land in Easton, MA" drafted by Gallagher Engineering Civil Engineers/Land Surveyors, dated February 19, 1999 as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on October 6, 1999 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 383, Pages 35 through 41; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, for a drainage, access, utility, and pedestrian easement across Lots 11, 24, and 25 containing 36,943 square feet, as shown on the previously referenced "Tanglewood Estates Definitive Subdivision Plan;" and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said HARMONY LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman King moved that the town vote to accept HARMONY LANE as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 7+39.33 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Tanglewood Estates Definitive Subdivision of Land in Easton, MA" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This is a routine street acceptance.

ARTICLE 40 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 41. STREET ACCEPTANCE – GEORGETOWN LANE

To see if the town will vote to accept the following named street or way, GEORGETOWN LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 6+00.00 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Georgetown Estates Definitive Subdivision Land in Easton, MA" drafted by Gallagher Engineering Civil Engineers/Land Surveyors, dated May 7, 1997 as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on April 29, 1998 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 374, Pages 56 and 57; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, for a 25' wide utility and pedestrian easement across Lots 1 and 2 containing 13,343 square feet, as shown on the previously referenced "Georgetown Estates Definitive Subdivision Plan;" and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said GEORGETOWN LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the town vote to accept GEORGETOWN LANE as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 6+00.00 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Georgetown Estates Definitive Subdivision Land in Easton, MA" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This is a routine street acceptance.

ARTICLE 41 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 42. STREET ACCEPTANCE – CAMDEN WAY

To see if the town will vote to accept the following named street or way, CAMDEN WAY, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 7+43.93 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Definitive Subdivision of Lexington Estates, Easton, MA", drafted by Ribelin Land Surveyors, Inc., dated November 13, 1998 and revised through June 27, 2000, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on June 28, 2000 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 390, Pages 57 and 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14 as follows: drainage easement across Lots 7 and 8 containing 21,537 square feet, as shown on the previously referenced "Definitive Subdivision of Lexington Estates" plan, a utility easement across Lot 8 containing 6,863 square feet, as shown on the "Definitive Subdivision of Lexington Estates" plan; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said CAMDEN WAY, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Haederle moved that the town vote to accept CAMDEN WAY as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 7+43.93 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Definitive Subdivision of Lexington Estates, Easton, MA" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This is a routine street acceptance.

ARTICLE 42 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 43. STREET ACCEPTANCE – SARATOGA LANE

To see if the town will vote to accept the following named street or way, SARATOGA LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 1+92.85 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Definitive Subdivision of Lexington Estates, Easton, MA", drafted by Ribelin Land Surveyors, Inc., dated November 13, 1998 and revised through June 27, 2000, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on June 28, 2000 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 390, Pages 57 and 58; and to

authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, for a drainage easement across Lots 3, 4 and 5 containing 137,412 square feet as shown on the previously referenced "Definitive Subdivision of Lexington Estates;" and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said SARATOGA LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Marsan moved that the town vote to accept SARATOGA LANE as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 1+92.85 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Definitive Subdivision of Lexington Estates, Easton, MA" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This is a routine street acceptance.

ARTICLE 43 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 44. STREET ACCEPTANCE – ROUNDTABLE ROAD

To see if the town will vote to accept the following named street or way, ROUNDTABLE ROAD, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 21+99.85 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Camelot Estates, Easton, MA", drafted by Rim Engineering, dated July 2, 1984 and revised through April 15, 1985, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on December 12, 1984 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 221, Pages 56 through 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14 as follows: an access easement across Lots 31, 32, and 33 containing 18,448 square feet, a drainage easement across Lots 15, 16,17, and 18 containing 46,695 square feet, and a drainage easement across Lot 30 containing 4,466 square feet, all as shown on the previously referenced "Camelot Estates" plan; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said ROUNDTABLE ROAD, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Less moved that the town vote to accept ROUNDTABLE ROAD as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 21+99.85 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Camelot Estates, Easton, MA" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This is a routine street acceptance.

ARTICLE 44 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 45. STREET ACCEPTANCE – ARMOR LANE

To see if the town will vote to accept the following named street or way, ARMOR LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 17+86.12 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Camelot Estates, Easton, MA", drafted by Rim Engineering, dated July 2, 1984 and revised through April 15, 1985, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on December 12, 1984 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 221, Pages 56 through 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, as follows: a drainage easement across Lot 5 containing 12,582 square feet, and a drainage easement across Lots 15, 16,17, and 18 containing 46,695 square feet, both as shown on the previously referenced "Camelot Estates" plan; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said ARMOR LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman King moved that the town vote to accept ARMOR LANE as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 17+86.12 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Camelot Estates, Easton, MA" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This is a routine street acceptance.

ARTICLE 45 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 46. STREET ACCEPTANCE – EXCALIBUR LANE

To see if the town will vote to accept the following named street or way, EXCALIBUR LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 3+59.00 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Camelot Estates, Easton, MA", drafted by Rim Engineering, dated July 2, 1984 and revised through April 15, 1985, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on December 12, 1984 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 221, Pages 56 through 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14 for a 5-foot roadway easement parallel to and along the southerly sideline of Excalibur Lane containing 1,112 square feet, as shown on the previously referenced "Camelot Estates" plan; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said EXCALIBUR LANE or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the town vote to accept EXCALIBUR LANE as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 3+59.00 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Camelot Estates, Easton, MA" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This is a routine street acceptance.

ARTICLE 46 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 47. STREET ACCEPTANCE – ACCESS ROAD

To see if the town will vote to accept the following named street or way, "ACCESS ROAD", as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 3+59.00 to station 8+55 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Camelot Estates, Easton, MA", drafted by Rim Engineering, dated July 2, 1984 and revised through April 15, 1985, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on December 12, 1984 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 221, Page 56 through 58; and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said ACCESS ROAD, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Haederle moved that the town vote to accept "ACCESS ROAD" as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 3+59.00 to station 8+55 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Camelot Estates, Easton, MA" as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: This is a routine street acceptance.

ARTICLE 47 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 48. FUNDING FOR CONTRACT FOR EASTON POLICE ASSOCIATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money needed to fund the incremental cost items contained in any collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the Easton Police Association/Massachusetts Coalition of Police if such agreement is negotiated and mutually ratified prior to Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

SELECTMAN Marsan moved that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of $10,000 for the purpose of funding the Fiscal Year 2005 incremental cost items contained in a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Town and the Easton Police Association/Massachusetts Coalition of Police and, to meet this appropriation, $9,000 shall be transferred from account 01-101-15-6095 voted pursuant to Article 19 of the Annual Town Meeting on May 20, 2002 and $1,000 shall be transferred from account 01-101-15-6101 voted pursuant to Article 4 of the Special Town Meeting on January 13, 2003; with other costs being funded in the Police Department fiscal year 2005 operating budget.

EXPLANATION: The Police Union and the Board of Selectmen have agreed to a one-year contract for fiscal 2004 that calls for an extension of the prior contract with no salary increases. In addition, a three year contract has been agreed to for fiscal year 2005 through 2007 which provides for a maximum total of 11% in base salary increases over the life of the contract. The full impact of these increases will not be felt until fiscal year 2008. The contract also achieves a reduction in the Town's contribution to employees' health care, with some changes

going into effect effective January 1, 2006 and others going into effect on July 1, 2006. At that time, the Union will have the option of taking a 1.5% wage increase and implementing further changes in health insurance contributions, or it can wait for other groups to settle in which event the 1.5% wage increase will be delayed until those insurance changes are in fact implemented.

ARTICLE 48 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 49. FUNDING FOR CONTRACT FOR EASTON FIREFIGHTERS' UNION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money need to fund the incremental cost items contained in any collective bargaining agreement between the Town and Local 2790, International Association of Fire Fighters if such agreement is negotiated and mutually ratified prior to Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Less moved to dismiss Article 49.

EXPLANATION: We have not yet reached an agreement with the Fire union.

ARTICLE 49 ACTION: DISMISSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 50. ACQUISITION OF LAND NORTH OF MOREAU HALL

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of acquiring for municipal purposes a parcel of land shown on Assessor's Map U23 as Lot 4, having an area of 89,148 square feet, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman King moved that the town appropriate $350,000 for the acquisition for municipal purposes of a parcel of land shown on Assessor's Map U23 as Lot 4, having an area of approximately 89,148 square feet; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow up to $350,000 under G.L. c.44, §7(3) or any other enabling authority; and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to acquire said parcel and to take any other action necessary to carry out this project.

EXPLANATION: *Refer audience to graphic.* This parcel is just north of Moreau Hall. The property is of interest to the community for a variety of purposes, and could immediately be put to use for badly needed parking at Moreau Hall as well as for a recreational facility, such as a softball field. While the asking price is $350,000, we hope that further negotiations will yield a more favorable purchase price. This acquisition is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, School Department, Finance Committee, Planning and Zoning Board, Capital Planning Committee, Recreation Commission and Wastewater Management Study Committee. Representatives from the school and recreation departments are available to provide further information regarding this proposal.

ARTICLE 50 ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 51. CITIZEN PETITION TO ESTABLISH TOWN OFFICE HOURS

To see if the Town will vote to establish the business hours of the Town Office as Monday, Eight-thirty A.M. to Seven-thirty P.M., Tuesday through Thursday, each of them, Eight-thirty A.M. to Four-thirty P.M., and Friday, Eight-thirty A.M. to Twelve-thirty P.M. except that no business shall be conducted on holidays listed in labor relations agreements.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

Petitioner Patrick Goodman moved to establish the business hours of the Town Office as Monday, Eight-thirty A.M. to Seven-thirty P.M., Tuesday through Thursday, each of them, Eight-thirty A.M. to Four-thirty P.M., and Friday, Eight-thirty A.M. to Twelve-thirty P.M. except that no business shall be conducted on holidays listed in labor relations agreements.

ARTICLE 51 ACTION: VOTED.

ARTICLE 52. CITIZEN PETITION TO RESCIND FUNDING FOR LIBRARY PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to rescind all funding (except those funds already expended) and authority granted by the vote on Article 7 of the Annual Town Meeting on April 8, 1996. In explanation, to see if the Town will vote to rescind the $5,000,000 appropriated (except those funds already expended) for the so called Ames Free Library Addition Project located at 53 Main Street as authorized by Article 7, and to rescind all authority granted to the Board of Selectmen, and the Directors of the Ames Free Library to carry out this project as described by Article 7.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

Petitioner Anthony Pires moved to rescind all funding (except those funds already expended) and authority granted by the vote on Article 7 of the Annual Town Meeting on April 8, 1996. In explanation, to see if the Town will vote to rescind the $5,000,000 appropriated (except those funds already expended) for the so called Ames Free Library Addition Project located at 53 Main Street as authorized by Article 7, and to rescind all authority granted to the Board of Selectmen, and the Directors of the Ames Free Library to carry out this project as described by Article 7.

ARTICLE 52 ACTION: NOT A VOTE.

Move to reconsider Article 52 - NOT A VOTE.

ARTICLE 53. CITIZEN PETITION FOR REZONING

To see if the Town will vote to change the zoning for plot 220 on Assessors map 21U of the Town of Easton known as 4 Park Street from Industrial to Business.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

Petitioner Anthony Pires moved to dismiss Article 53.

ARTICLE 53 ACTION: DISMISSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 54. CITIZEN PETITION TO FUND ARTIFICIAL TURF AT MUSCATO STADIUM

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of constructing an artificial playing surface and running track at Muscato Stadium, and for all engineering, environmental, survey and related design services, as well as any and all necessary appurtenances to the construction of the artificial surface, including but not limited to, drainage works, and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow $1,000,000 under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

Selectman Haederle moved that the Town vote to appropriate $1,000,000 for construction of an artificial playing surface and running track at Muscato Stadium and for all engineering, environmental, survey and related design services, as well as any and all necessary appurtenances to the construction of the artificial surface, including but not limited to drainage works; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow $1,000,000 under G.L. c.44, §7(25) or any other enabling authority; and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project.

Explanation: This article would fund an artificial playing surface and track at Muscato Stadium.

ARTICLE 54 ACTION: YES 205; NO 132. ARTICLE FAILS DUE TO LACK OF 2/3 VOTE REQUIRED.

Motion to Reconsider Article 54: Not A Vote.

At 11:45 p.m., it was moved and VOTED TO DISSOLVE the Annual Town Meeting. Total Voters present – 509.

A true record. Attest: , CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof one at each meeting house and post office and one at the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium and one at the Town Offices, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this 3rd day of May the year Two Thousand Four.

Colleen A. Corona, Chair
John S. Haederle, Clerk
Gerard S. Marsan
Colleen A. Less
Charles P. King
EASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton, Mass. May 10, 2004
By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

A true record. Attest:

Janet Andrus Linehan
Town Clerk of Easton

TOWN OF EASTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

JULY 29, 2004

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton in the County of Bristol:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Easton qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium in said Easton on Thursday, the 29th day of July, next, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Thursday, July 29, 2004
Oliver Ames High School Auditorium

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Moderator Michael G. Sites at 7:13 p.m. with over 300 registered voters, a quorum being present.

The following Counters were duly sworn by Town Clerk Janet Linehan: Mary Donovan, Bradley Sultan, Tony Cabral, Bob Sultan, Ben Farrell, Carl Velt, Louis Aries, Jennifer Kavo.

The following Non voters were voted admittance to the hall: DEPARTMENT HEADS: (Per Charter Section 2-4 Shall Attend Town Meeting) Martha L. White, Town Administrator; Janet Andrus Linehan, Town Clerk; Anne Carney, Assistant Assessor; Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant; John L. Nunes, Treasurer/Collector; William Simmons, School Superintendent; Wade Saucier, Health Director; Marc Rousseau, Planner; Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager; D. Mark Trivett, Building Inspector; John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent. OTHER TOWN EMPLOYEES: Michael Green, Ed. D., Assistant to Superintendent; Marilyn Gordon, School Business Manager; Robert Smith, School Principal; Gary Mazzola, School Principal; Annalee Bundy, Library Director; Eric Davis, Data Processing; Julie Bertram, Assistant Treasurer. OTHERS: Elaine Lucas, Brackett & Lucas, Town Counsel; James J. Hager, Supt. Southeastern Regional School District. MEDIA: Easton Journal: Sarah Johnson; Media One: Michal Stump; Enterprise: Vicki Downing.
REPRESENTATIVES: State Senator Robert Creedon; State Representative Geraldine Creedon; State Senator Brian Joyce; State Representative David Flynn; State Representative Christine Canavan; Congressman Stephen Lynch. REQUESTING ADMITTANCE FOR 7/29/04: Gregory & Tonnie Maniero, 27 Williams Street (Registered After Deadline).

ARTICLE 1 AMENDMENTS TO SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AGREEMENT
To see if the Town will vote to amend Section I of the Southeastern Regional School District Agreement as amended, to provide as follows:

Striking in its entirety, Section I: The Regional School District Committee, and inserting in place thereof the following:

SECTION I: THE REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

A. COMPOSITION
The Regional School District Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, shall consist of ten members; two members shall be residents and registered voters of the City of Brockton, one member shall be a resident and registered voter of the Town of East Bridgewater, one member shall be a resident and registered voter of the Town of Easton, one member shall be a resident and registered voter of the Town of Foxborough, one member shall be a resident and registered voter of the Town of Norton, one member shall be a resident and registered voter of the Town of Mansfield, one member shall be a resident and registered voter of the Town of Sharon, one

member shall be a resident and registered voter of the Town of Stoughton, one member shall be a resident and registered voter of the Town of West Bridgewater. The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen/City Council and the school committee, as the case may be, in each of the respective towns and city. For instance, the Sharon Board of Selectmen/City Council and the school committee will appoint the Sharon Committee member.

B. APPOINTMENT PROCEDURES

Appointment to the District School Committees shall be done as follows:

(1) No later than August 31st of each year in which an appointment is to be made, the selectmen or city council of a town or city whose seats are up for appointment during that year will post notice of such vacancy in the city or town hall. Notice of the vacancy shall remain posted for at least thirty (30) days.

(2) Each individual interested in being appointed to the Committee shall submit a written statement of interest to the Board of Selectmen/City Council and school committee of the town or city in which he or she resides no later than October 1st during the year in which an appointment is scheduled to be made. The selectmen/city council and school committee will review the statements of interest, conduct interviews of the candidates if they desire, and make their appointment decisions no later than October 31st.

(3) Interested applicants must be residents and registered voters of the town or city in which they wish to be appointed in order to be considered for appointment to the Committee.

(4) Should a mid-term vacancy occur on the Committee, the town or city in which the vacancy occurs need not follow the appointment process set forth herein and may appoint through its board of selectmen or city council a resident and registered voter whom it decides in its discretion would be best suited to act as an interim committee member. Should a mid-term vacancy occur in the positions of Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer, the Committee may immediately appoint by majority vote new individuals to fill the position(s) on an interim basis for the duration of the term of the departing officer without following the appointment procedure set forth in Section C (3). In no case, shall any of the positions set forth herein remain vacant for more than thirty (30) days.

C. ORGANIZATION AND COMMENCEMENT OF TERMS OF OFFICE

(1) Initial Appointment – No later than August 31, 2004, each city and/or town represented by the five seats whose term is set to expire in November 2004 shall post a notice in the city and/or town hall notifying the public of the impending vacancy and inviting interested parties to submit a statement of interest to the respective Board of Selectmen/City Council and school committee no later than October 1, 2004. The Selectmen or City Council shall make their appointment as soon as practicable, but in no event later than October 31, 2004. New appointees will typically be sworn in at the first Committee meeting in November 2004 and shall serve a term of four (4) years in duration. The remaining five seats will follow the same appointment process, except such process shall take place in calendar year 2006. The present committee members for the five municipalities who were duly elected in the November 2002 election will continue to hold their seats until 2006.

(2) Subsequent Appointments – Each term shall be for four (4) years. Subsequent appointments shall be made in the same manner as initial appointments, with postings no later than August 31st, statements of interest provided no later than October 1st and appointment decisions made no later than October 31st. The individual appointed by the selectmen/city council and school committee shall begin to serve his or her term effective November 1st.

(3) Appointment of Officers – On the date of the first School Committee meeting following the November appointment and every November thereafter, the Committee shall choose by majority voice vote a Chairman for a term of one year from its own membership. At the same meeting, or at any other meeting, the Committee shall choose by majority vote a Treasurer and a Secretary, who may be the same person but who need not be a member of the Committee, choose such other officers as it deems advisable all to serve for a term of one year, and describe the powers and duties of any of its officers, fix the time and place for its regular meetings and provide for the calling of special meetings.

D. POWER AND DUTIES

The Committee shall have all the powers and duties conferred and imposed upon it by this Agreement and such other additional powers and duties as are specified in Chapter 489 of the Acts of 1963, and any amendments thereof or additions thereto, now or hereafter enacted, or as may be specified in any other applicable general or special law.

E. QUORUM

The quorum for the transaction of business shall be a majority of the Committee, but a number less than the majority may adjourn.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple majority
SELECTMEN RECOMMENDATION: Recommended

SELECTMAN Corona moved that the Town vote to amend Section I of the Southeastern Regional School District Agreement as amended, as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: Currently, the members of the Southeastern Regional School Committee are elected by a majority vote of all communities within the school district. Under this method it is possible for a candidate to be elected, even if he or she was not the top vote-getter within the community that they represent. This amendment would have the regional school committee members appointed jointly by the School Committee and Board of Selectmen (or City Council in the case of Brockton) within their community. It should be noted that all communities in the Southeastern Regional School District would have to pass this article for it to become effective, thus this vote may not necessarily change the method by which school committee members are installed.

ARTICLE 1 ACTION: VOTED.

ARTICLE 2. CITIZEN PETITION REGARDING ARTIFICAL PLAYING SURFACE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of constructing an artificial playing surface and running track at Muscato Stadium, and for all engineering, environmental, survey and related design services, as well as any and all necessary appurtenances to the construction of the artificial surface, including but not limited to, drainage works, and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow $1,000,000 under the provisions of Massachusetts General law Chapter 44, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Two-thirds
SELECTMEN RECOMMENDATION: NOT Recommended
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: NOT Recommended
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: NOT Recommended

PETITIONER Stephen Torrey moved to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of constructing an artificial playing surface and running track at Muscato Stadium as printed in the Warrant.

Point of order requesting that this article be voted by Secret Ballot. More than 30 voters supported this request. A secret ballot will be taken at the proper time.

ARTICLE 2 ACTION: Not a Vote. 111 Yes, 368 No.

Meeting was DISSOLVED AT 8:15 P.M. Total Voters Present – 497.

A true record. Attest Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

ARTICLE 3.
To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof one at each meeting house and post office and one at the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium and one at the Town Offices, fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this 12th day of July the year Two Thousand Four.

Colleen A. Corona, Chair
John S. Haederle, Clerk
Colleen A. Less
Charles P. King
EASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton, Mass July 15, 2004
By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

A true copy. Attest:
Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR STATE PRIMARY

Bristol, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at

Precincts 1, 2, 4 – Easton Jr. High School, Columbus Avenue
Precincts 3, 6 – Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Foundry Street
Precinct 5 – Easton Baptist Church, 197 Bay Road

On TUESDAY, THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2004, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Presidential Primary for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS.....NINTH DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR.....SECOND DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR.....FOURTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT.....SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT.....NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COUR.....SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT.....NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
SHERIF.....BRISTOL COUNTY
COUNTY COMMISSIONE.....BRISTOL COUNTY

VACANCIES

REGISTER OF DEEDS.....BRISTOL COUNTY

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 26 day of July, 2004.

Colleen A. Coyne Charles P. Kiley

Colleen A. Rea

SELECTMEN OF EASTON

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Janet Andrea Linskey

TOWN CLERK OF EASTON

7/27/04 Easton, Mass.
I have this day posted attested
Copies of this Warrant.

Constable of Easton

Warrant must be posted by September 7, 2004 (at least seven days prior to the September 14, 2004 State Primary)

State Primary
Tuesday, September 14, 2004

In accordance with the Warrant, the voters of the Town met at their respective polling places on Tuesday, September 21, 2004. The polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following named persons were duly sworn and performed the duties of elections officers:

Precinct One: J. Jacques Tremblay, Warden; Sandra Keach, Clerk; Albert Becker, Robert McLaughlin, Joseph Quieto, Wilfred Roberge, Barbara Takach, Inspectors.

Precinct Two: Maureen Papineau, Warden; Jean Harney, Clerk; Patricia Baker, Dorothy Conceison, Virgina Corte, John Papineau, Irene Roberge, Judith Thomas, Doris Welch, Inspectors.

Precinct Three: Evelyn Carlson, Acting Warden; Rena Salkovitz, Clerk; Joseph Camara, E. Pamela Corbett, Rose Furlong, Beverly Hanson, Inspectors;

Precinct Four: Lorraine Anderson, Acting Warden; Constance Dumoulin, Clerk; John Sullivan, Catharine Becker, David DeVore, Joanne Keach, Lateitia Tremblay, Inspectors.

Precinct Five: Blanche Hicks, Warden; Helena Luxton, Clerk; William McAndrews, Nicolina Previti, Bennie Moore, Marie Friesen, Elizabeth Verity, Inspectors.

Precinct Six: Mary Norrman, Warden; Anne Marie Martin, Clerk; Estelle Blackman, Harvey Blackman, Jean Fisher, Susan Henderson, Joan Hayward, Marilyn Williams, Inspectors.

FINAL OFFICIAL RESULTS

Registered Voters: 14,326 Percentage: 3%

The number of ballots cast:	Pct 1	Pct 2	Pct 3	Pct 4	Pct 5	Pct 6	Total
Democratic Party	25	74	39	55	53	41	287
Republican Party	19	28	20	16	32	38	153
Libertarian Party	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Green-Rainbow Party	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Total	44	102	60	71	86	79	442

The result of the Primary election was:

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

REP IN CONGRESS 9TH								
Stephen F. Lynch	22	63	35	51	48	33	252	D
All Others	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	D
Blanks	3	10	4	4	5	8	34	D
Total	25	74	39	55	53	41	287	D

COUNCILLOR 4TH DISTRICT (Pcts 1 & 2)

Christopher A. Iannella	11	36	[redacted]	47	D
Stephen F. Flynn	13	27		40	D
All Others	0	0		0	D
Blanks	1	11		12	D
Total	25	74		99	D

COUNCILLOR 2ND DISTRICT (Pcts 3,4,5,6)

Kelly A. Timilty	[redacted]	33	51	45	32	161	D
All Others		0	0	0	0	0	D
Blanks		6	4	8	9	27	D
Total		39	55	53	41	188	D

STATE SENATOR (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS. 3,4.5,6)

Brian A. Joyce	[redacted]	37	43	45	35	160	D
All Others		0	0	0	0	0	D
Blanks		2	12	8	6	28	D
Total		39	55	53	41	188	D

STATE SENATOR (2ND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS. 1, 2)

Robert S. Creedon	22	63	[redacted]	85	D
All Others	1	0		1	D
Blanks	2	11		13	D
Total	25	74		99	D

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 8TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCT 6)

David L.Flynn	[redacted]	33	33	D
Write-In Jane McLaughlin		1	1	D
All Others		0	0	D
Blanks		7	7	D
Total		41	41	D

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 10TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCT 3)

Christine E. Canavan	[redacted]	35	[redacted]	35	D
All Others		0		0	D
Blanks		4		4	D
Total		39		39	D

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 11TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCTS.1, 2, 4, 5)

Geraldine Creedon	22	61	[redacted]	45	46	[redacted]	174	D
All Others	0	0		0	0		0	D
Blanks	3	13		10	7		33	D
Total	25	74		55	53		207	D

REGISTER OF DEEDS BRISTOL COUNTY NORTHERN DISTRICT								
David M. Simas	19	56	33	47	41	32	228	D
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	D
Blanks	6	18	6	8	12	9	59	D
Total	25	74	39	55	53	41	287	D
SHERIFF BRISTOL COUNTY								
Leo O. Pelletier	19	51	31	45	46	32	224	D
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	D
Blanks	6	23	8	10	7	9	63	D
Total	25	74	39	55	53	41	287	D
COUNTY COMMISSIONER BRISTOL COUNTY								
Arthur R. Machado	11	38	16	23	16	19	123	D
Christopher T. Saunders	7	28	17	23	14	14	103	D
Gregory DeMelo	14	31	19	26	30	16	136	D
Paul B. Kitchen	5	17	14	17	13	14	80	D
All Others	0	1	0	0	3	0	4	D
Blanks	13	33	12	21	30	19	128	D
Total	50	148	78	110	106	82	574	D

REPUBLICAN PARTY

REP IN CONGRESS 9TH								
Write-In Steven Lynch	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	R
All Others	0	1	2	1	1	0	5	R
Blanks	19	27	18	15	31	37	147	R
Total	19	28	20	16	32	38	153	R
COUNCILLOR 4TH DISTRICT (Pcts 1 & 2)								
Donald A. Hussey	16	21	[redacted]				37	R
All Others	0	0					0	R
Blanks	3	7					10	R
Total	19	28					47	R
COUNCILLOR 2ND DISTRICT (Pcts 3,4,5,6)								
Write-in Michael McCue	[redacted]		0	0	1	0	1	R
Write-In Kelly Timilty			0	0	0	1	1	R
All Others			0	1	0	0	1	R
Blanks			20	15	31	37	103	R
Total			20	16	32	38	106	R
STATE SENATOR (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS. 3,4.5,6)								
Write-In - Brian Joyce	[redacted]		0	0	0	1	1	R
Write-In - David McCarter			0	0	2	0	2	R
All Others			1	1	1	0	3	R

Blanks		19	15	29	37	100	R
Total		20	16	32	38	106	R

STATE SENATOR (2ND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT)
(PCTS. 1, 2)

Lawrence P. Novak	16	24				40	R
All Others	0	0				0	R
Blanks	3	4				7	R
Total	19	28				47	R

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 8TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
(PCT 6)

Jane McLaughlin					37	37	R
All Others					0	0	R
Blanks					1	1	R
Total					38	38	R

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 10TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
(PCT 3)

Mark W. Chauppette			18			18	R
All Others			0			0	R
Blanks			2			2	R
Total			20			20	R

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 11TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
(PCTS.1, 2, 4, 5)

Marissa E. Lima	15	22		13	31	81	R
All Others	0	0		0	0	0	R
Blanks	4	6		3	1	14	R
Total	19	28		16	32	95	R

REGISTER OF DEEDS BRISTOL COUNTY NORTHERN DISTRICT

Write-In - David Simas	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	R
All Others	1	1	0	1	0	1	4	R
Blanks	18	27	20	15	32	36	148	R
Total	19	28	20	16	32	38	153	R

SHERIFF BRISTOL COUNTY

Thomas M. Hodgson	17	26	17	16	29	32	137	R
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	R
Blanks	2	2	3	0	3	6	16	R
Total	19	28	20	16	32	38	153	R

COUNTY COMMISSIONER BRISTOL COUNTY

Gregory DeMelo	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	R
All Others	0	1	0	2	0	1	4	R
Blanks	38	55	40	30	64	74	301	R
Total	38	56	40	32	64	76	306	R

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

REP IN CONGRESS 9TH								
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L
COUNCILLOR 4TH DISTRICT (Pcts 1 & 2)								
Blanks	0	0	[redacted]				0	L
Total	0	0					0	L
COUNCILLOR 2ND DISTRICT (Pcts 3,4,5,6)								
Blanks	[redacted]		0	0	0	0	0	L
Total			0	0	0	0	0	L
STATE SENATOR (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS. 3,4.5,6)								
Blanks	[redacted]		0	0	0	0	0	L
Total			0	0	0	0	0	L
STATE SENATOR (2ND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS. 1, 2)								
Blanks	0	0	[redacted]				0	L
Total	0	0					0	L
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 8TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCT 6)								
Blanks	[redacted]					0	0	L
Total						0	0	L
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 10TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCT 3)								
Blanks	[redacted]		0	[redacted]			0	L
Total			0				0	L
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 11TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCTS.1, 2, 4, 5)								
Blanks	0	0	[redacted]	0	0	[redacted]	0	L
Total	0	0		0	0		0	L
REGISTER OF DEEDS BRISTOL COUNTY NORTHERN DISTRICT								
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L
SHERIFF BRISTOL COUNTY								
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L

COUNTY COMMISSIONER BRISTOL COUNTY

Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L

GREEN-RAINBOW PARTY

REP IN CONGRESS 9TH

Write-In McLaughlin	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	G-R
Blanks	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	G-R
Total	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	G-R

COUNCILLOR 4TH DISTRICT (Pcts 1 & 2)

Blanks	0	0	[redacted]				0	G-R
Total	0	0					0	G-R

COUNCILLOR 2ND DISTRICT (Pcts 3,4,5,6)

Blanks	[redacted]		1	0	1	0	2	G-R
Total			1	0	1	0	2	G-R

STATE SENATOR (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS. 3,4.5,6)

Blanks	[redacted]		1	0	1	0	2	G-R
Total			1	0	1	0	2	G-R

STATE SENATOR (2ND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS. 1, 2)

Blanks	0	0	[redacted]				0	G-R
Total	0	0					0	G-R

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 8TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCT 6)

Blanks	[redacted]					0	0	G-R
Total						0	0	G-R

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 10TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCT 3)

Blanks	[redacted]		1	[redacted]			1	G-R
Total			1				1	G-R

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 11TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCTS.1, 2, 4, 5)

Blanks	0	0	[redacted]	0	1	[redacted]	1	G-R
Total	0	0		0	1		1	G-R

Total	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	G-R
SHERIFF BRISTOL COUNTY								
Blanks	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	G-R
Total	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	G-R
COUNTY COMMISSIONER BRISTOL COUNTY								
Write-In David Shea	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	G-R
Blanks	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	G-R
Total	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	G-R

A true
record.
Attest:
Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk of Easton

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR STATE ELECTION

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in the State Election to vote at

Precincts 1, 2, 4 – Easton Jr. High School, Columbus Avenue
Precincts 3, 6 – Easton Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Foundry St
Precinct 5 – Easton Baptist Church, 197 Bay Road

on **TUESDAY, THE SECOND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2004,** from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates for the following offices:

ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT . . . . . .STATEWIDE
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS . . . . . .NINTH DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR . . . . . SECOND DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR . . . . . .FOURTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT . . . . . NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT . . . . . .SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. . . . . .TENTH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. . . . . EIGHTH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. . . . . ELEVENTH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
SHERIFF . . . . . .BRISTOL COUNTY
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS . . . . . .BRISTOL COUNTY
REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE . . SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL DISTRICT

VACANCIES:

REGISTER OF DEEDS. . . . . BRISTOL NORTHERN DISTRICT

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 22nd day of October, 2004.

Colleen A. Corona
Charles P. King
Colleen A. Less
Selectmen of: Easton

A true copy. Attest:
Janet Andrus Linehan,
Town Clerk

Bristol, ss. Easton, Mass. October 25, 2004
By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

Warrant must be posted by **October 26, 2004,** (at least *seven days prior* to the **November 2, 2004**, State Election).

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR STATE ELECTION

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in the State Election to vote at

Precincts 1, 2, 4 – Easton Jr. High School, Columbus Avenue
Precincts 3, 6 – Easton Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Foundry St
Precinct 5 – Easton Baptist Church, 197 Bay Road

on **TUESDAY, THE SECOND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2004,** from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpo

To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates for the following offices:

ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT . . . . . .STATEWIDE
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS . . . . . .NINTH DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR . . . . . SECOND DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR . . . . . .FOURTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT . . . . . .NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT . . . . . .SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. . . . . .TENTH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. . . . . EIGHTH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. . . . . ELEVENTH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
SHERIFF . . . . . .BRISTOL COUNTY
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS . . . . . .BRISTOL COUNTY
REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE . . SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL DISTRICT

VACANCIES:

REGISTER OF DEEDS. . . . . BRISTOL NORTHERN DISTRICT

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 22nd day of October, 2004.

Colleen A. Corona
Charles P. King
Colleen A. Less
Selectmen of: Easton

A true copy. Attest:
Janet Andrus Linehan,
Town Clerk

Bristol, ss. Easton, Mass. October 25, 2004
By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

Warrant must be posted by **October 26, 2004,** (at least *seven days prior* to the **November 2, 2004**, State Election).

STATE ELECTION
NOVEMBER 2, 2004

In accordance with the Warrant, the voters of the Town met at their respective polling places on Tuesday, November 2, 2004. The polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following named persons were duly sworn and performed the duties of election officers:

Precinct One – J. Jacques Tremblay, Warden; Robert M. Laughlin, Deputy Warden; Sandra Keach, Clerk; Albert Becker, Deputy Clerk; Joseph Quieto, Wilfred Roberge, Barbara Takach, Eleanor Bridge, Beverly Smith, Checkers.

Precinct Two – Maureen Papineau, Warden; Dorothy Conceison, Deputy Warden; Jean Harney, Clerk; Patricia Baker, Deputy Clerk; Judith Thomas , Irene Roberge, Virginia Corte, Mary Jane Wood, John Papineau, Doris Welch, Anne McCann, Katherine Gill, Checkers.

Precinct Three – Arelene Keach, Warden; Evelyn Carlson, Deputy Warden; Rena Salkovitz, Clerk, Joseph Camara, Deputy Clerk; Rose Furlong, Beverly Hanson, E. Pamela Corbett, Checkers.

Precinct Four – Elizabeth Porter, Warden; Lorraine Anderson, Deputy Warden; Constance Dumoulin, Clerk; Laetitia Tremblay, Deputy Clerk; Nancy Arns, David DeVore, Barbara Walsh, Catherine Becker, Elizabeth Puopolo, Catherine Bodio, Bridget Dumoulin, Checkers.

Precinct Five – Blanche Hicks, Warden; Bennie Moore, Deputy Warden; Helena Luxton, Clerk; Elizabeth Verity, Virginia Curley, Dawn Richardson, Jean Crandell, Jean Shearing, Althea Thornton, Melvin Smith, Nicolina Previti, Donna Ryan, Donna Wilbur, Checkers.

Precinct Six – Mary Norrman, Warden; Harvey Blackman, Deputy Warden; Anne Martin, Clerk; Susan Henderson, Deputy Clerk; Marilyn Williams, Joan Hayward, Jean Fisher, Estelle Blackman, Checkers.

The results of the election:

Registered Voters: 14,677						Percentage:	78%
The number of ballots cast:	Pct 1	Pct 2	Pct 3	Pct 4	Pct 5	Pct 6	Total
	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477
The result of the State Election was:							
ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT (All Precincts) (Vote for One)							
Badnarik and Campagna, Liberatrian	10	14	9	11	7	7	58
Bush and Cheney, Republican	648	1036	888	944	965	955	5436
Cobb and LaMarche, Green-Rainbow	4	5	8	6	6	4	33
Kerry and Edwards, Democratic	623	1134	974	1027	1177	943	5878
Write-ins Nader and et al	5	5	3	3	8	4	28
Write-Ins All Others	4	3	2	2	4	2	17
Blanks	0	11	4	1	4	7	27
Total	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477
REP IN CONGRESS 9TH DISTRICT (All Precincts) (Vote for One)							
Stephen F. Lynch, (D), Boston	841	1503	1342	1340	1506	1345	7877
Write-ins - All Others	14	10	1	14	13	8	60
Blanks	439	695	545	640	652	569	3540
Total	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477

COUNCILLOR FOURTH DISTRICT (Pcts 1 & 2) (Vote for One)

Christopher A. Iannella, Jr. (D), Boston	514	946	[redacted]	1460
Donald A Hussey, (R) Hingham	414	609		1023
Brian Connolly, (U) , Hanover	130	269		399
Write-ins - All Others	1	0		1
Blanks	235	384		619
Total	1294	2208		3502

COUNCILLOR SECOND DISTRICT (Pcts 3,4,5,6) (Vote for One)

Kelly A. Timilty, (D), Boston	[redacted]	1241	1211	1369	1254	5075
Write-In Mike McCue (R) Mansfield		0	0	0	0	0
Write-ins - All Others		0	7	6	3	16
Blanks		647	776	796	665	2884
Total		1888	1994	2171	1922	7975

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT (NORFOLK, BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH DISTRICT) (PCTS. 3,4,5,6) (Vote for One)

Brian A. Joyce, (D), Milton	[redacted]	1306	1307	1473	1294	5380
Write-ins - All Others		0	6	5	1	12
Blanks		582	681	693	627	2583
Total		1888	1994	2171	1922	7975

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT (2ND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT) (PCTS. 1, 2) (Vote for One)

Robert S. Creedon, Jr., (D), Brockton	699	1279	[redacted]	1978
Lawrence P. Novak, (R) Brockton	466	715		1181
Write-ins - All Others	1	0		1
Blanks	128	214		342
Total	1294	2208		3502

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 8TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCT 6) (Vote for One)

David L. Flynn, (D), Bridgewater	[redacted]	903	903
Jane McLaughlin, (R),Raynham		853	853
Write-ins - All Others		0	0
Blanks		166	166
Total		1922	1922

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 10TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCT 3) (Vote for One)

Christine E Canavan, (D), Brockton	[redacted]	1050	[redacted]	1050
Mark W Chauppette, (R), Brockton		619		619
Write-ins - All Others		0		0
Blanks		219		219
Total		1888		1888

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 11TH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT (PCTS.1, 2, 4, 5) (Vote for One)

Geraldine Creedon, (D), Brockton	695	1253	[redacted]	1120	1253	[redacted]	4321
Marissa E Lima, (R), Brockton	451	707		630	651		2439
Write-ins - All Others	1	0		3	1		5
Blanks	147	248		241	266		902
Total	1294	2208		1994	2171		7667

REGISTER OF DEEDS BRISTOL COUNTY NORTHERN DISTRICT (All Precincts) (Vote for One)

David M Simas, (D), Taunton	738	1343	1197	1176	1295	1191	6940
Write-ins - All Others	5	4	0	3	7	2	21
Blanks	551	861	691	815	869	729	4516
Total	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477

SHERIFF BRISTOL COUNTY (All Precints) (Vote for One)							
Thomas M Hodgson, (R), Fall River	624	1012	863	862	947	901	5209
Leo O Pelletier, (D), Fall River	431	840	774	787	850	732	4414
Write-ins - All Others	3	0	0	2	1	3	9
Blanks	236	356	251	343	373	286	1845
Total	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477

COUNTY COMMISSIONER BRISTOL COUNTY (All Precincts) (Vote for not more than Two)							
Arthur R. Machado, (D), Fall River	601	1105	935	932	1066	901	5540
Christopher T Saunders, (D), New Bedford	531	915	809	802	920	811	4788
Write-ins - All Others	8	3	0	4	4	3	22
Blanks	1448	2393	2032	2250	2352	2129	12604
Total	2588	4416	3776	3988	4342	3844	22954

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONALSCHOOL DISTRICT (All Precincts) (Brockton) (Vote for One)							
Winnifred E. Petkunas, Brockton	734	1288	1201	1124	1253	1155	6755
Write-ins - All Others	2	3	0	2	1	1	9
Blanks	558	917	687	868	917	766	4713
Total	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONALSCHOOL DISTRICT (All Precincts) (Foxborough) (Vote for One)							
Robert A. Girardin, Foxborough	708	1223	1164	1065	1206	1126	6492
Write-ins - All Others	3	1	0	2	3	0	9
Blanks	583	984	724	927	962	796	4976
Total	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONALSCHOOL DISTRICT (All Precincts) (Mansfield) (Vote for One)							
William F. Flannery, Mansfield	423	673	698	594	670	664	3722
Andrea Micheli, Mansfield	378	787	599	677	718	597	3756
Write-ins - All Others	2	1	0	1	2	0	6
Blanks	491	747	591	722	781	661	3993
Total	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONALSCHOOL DISTRICT (All Precincts) (Norton) (Vote for One)							
Christopher DeLeo, Norton	489	890	842	779	834	776	4610
John Luti, Norton	205	359	338	319	360	344	1925
Write-ins - All Others	3	0	0	3	1	0	7
Blanks	597	959	708	893	976	802	4935
Total	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONALSCHOOL DISTRICT (All Precincts) (Sharon) (Vote for One)							
Mindy M. Kempner, Sharon	697	1190	1126	1022	1153	1107	6295
Write-ins - All Others	4	1	0	3	1	0	9
Blanks	593	1017	762	969	1017	815	5173
Total	1294	2208	1888	1994	2171	1922	11477

A true record. Attest: Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

TOWN OF EASTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2004

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton in the County of Bristol:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Easton qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Oliver Ames High School Gymnasium and Auditorium in said Easton on Monday, the 6th day of December, next, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

Special Town Meeting
Monday, December 6, 2004
Oliver Ames High School Gymnasium

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Richard C. Dailey at 7:17 p.m. with quorum present.

Moderator Dailey announced that the Oliver Ames High School Class of 2006 was selling water, hot chocolate, candy and other items as a fund raiser at this meeting.

The following non-voters were voted admittance to the hall: DEPARTMENT HEADS: *(Per Charter Section 2-4 Shall Attend Town Meeting) Martha L. White, Town Administrator; Janet Andrus Linehan, Town Clerk; Anne Carney, Assistant Assessor; Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant; John L. Nunes, Treasurer/Collector; William Simmons, School Superintendent; Wade Saucier, Health Director; Marc Rousseau, Planner; Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager; D. Mark Trivett, Building Inspector; John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent.* OTHER TOWN EMPLOYEES: *Michael Green, Ed. D., Assistant to Superintendent; Marilyn Gordon, School Business Manager; Beverly Conte, Special Ed Director; Robert Smith, School Principal; Gary Mazzola, School Principal; Margaret Lynch, School Principal; Vanessa Beauchaine, School Principal; John Giuggio, School Principal; Luke Carroll, Assistant Principal; Annalee Bundy, Library Director; Eric Davis, Data Processing; Julie Bertram, Assistant Treasurer.* OTHERS: *Elaine Lucas, Brackett & Lucas, Town Counsel; James J. Hager, Supt. Southeastern Regional School District.* MEDIA: *Easton Journal: Sarah Johnson; Media One: Robyn Souza; Enterprise: Vicki Downing, Denise Hill; Easton Bulletin: Easton Buzz:.* REPRESENTATIVES: *State Senator Brian Joyce; State Senator Robert Creedon; State Representative Geraldine Creedon; State Representative David Flynn; State Representative Christine Canavan; Congressman Stephen Lynch.* MICROPHONE CARRIERS: *Shannon Fitzgerald, Evan Stone, Paul Chaffin.* REQUESTING ADMITTANCE FOR 12/6/04: *Tony Iaccarino, School Project Manager; Jim Wheeler, Gaslight Lane.*

ARTICLE 1. FUNDING OF CONTRACT FOR CIVILIAN PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHERS
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money needed to fund the incremental cost items contained in any collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the Southeastern Public Employees Association/

Civilian Public Safety Dispatchers if such agreement is negotiated and mutually ratified prior to Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto. Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the Town vote to approve the funding of the incremental cost items contained in a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Town and the Southeastern Public Employees' Association/Civilian Public Safety Dispatchers Unit, such agreement to be effective July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2007, with costs for Fiscal Year 2005 being funded in the Police department's Fiscal Year 2005 operating budget.

EXPLANATION: The Dispatchers' Union and the Board of Selectmen have agreed to a one-year contract for fiscal 2004 that calls for an extension of the prior contract with no salary increases. In addition, a three year contract has been agreed to for fiscal year 2005 through 2007 which provides for a total effective increase of 8.26% over the 4 year period. The full impact of these increases will not be felt until fiscal year 2008. The contract also achieves a reduction in the Town's contribution to employees' health care, with some changes going into effect January 1, 2006, others going into effect on July 1, 2006, and still others going into effect only upon acceptance of the changes by all town unions. Implementation of the July 1, 2006 changes are at the Union's option – they can either take a 2% wage increase and implement specified changes in health insurance contributions, or they can wait for other groups to settle in which event the 2% wage increase will be delayed until those insurance changes are in fact implemented. We also granted a modest increase in shift differentials, eliminated the "performance evaluation" system in lieu of a step raise system, and granted part time dispatchers 1 personal day per year.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMENDS
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple Majority
TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 2. FUNDING OF CONTRACT FOR DPW UNION
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money needed to fund the incremental cost items contained in any collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the Southeastern Public Employees Association/ DPW Unit if such agreement is negotiated and mutually ratified prior to Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto. Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Haederle moved to dismiss Article 2.

EXPLANATION: This contract has not been ratified by the DPW Union and Board of Selectmen.

The Selectmen recommend dismissing this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple Majority
TOWN MEETING ACTION : DISMISSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 3. FUNDING OF CONTRACT FOR LOCAL 2790 I.A.F.F (FIREFIGHTERS)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money needed to fund the incremental cost items contained in any collective bargaining agreement between the Town and Local 2790 I.A.F.F. if such agreement is negotiated and mutually ratified prior to Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Marsan moved that the Town vote to approve the funding of the incremental cost items contained in a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Town and the Local 2790 I.A.F.F. (Firefighters' Union), such agreement to be effective July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2007, with costs for Fiscal Year 2005 being funded in the Fire Department's Fiscal Year 2005 operating budget.

EXPLANATION: The Fire Union and the Board of Selectmen have agreed to a one-year contract for fiscal 2004 that calls for an extension of the prior contract with no salary increases. In addition, a three year contract has been agreed to for fiscal year 2005 through 2007 which provides for a total effective increase of 10.15% over the 4 year period. The full impact of these increases will not be felt until fiscal year 2008. The contract also achieves a reduction in the Town's contribution to employees' health care, with some changes going into effect January 1, 2006, others going into effect on July 1, 2006, and still others going into effect only upon acceptance of the changes by all town unions. Implementation of the July 1, 2006 changes are at the Union's option – they can either take a 2% wage increase and implement specified changes in health insurance contributions, or they can wait for other groups to settle in which event the 2% wage increase will be delayed until those insurance changes are in fact implemented. We also achieved significant changes in the use of compensatory time, gained additional controls over the use of sick time, and limited the number of personnel that can take leave at the same time, all having a corresponding favorable impact on the overtime budget.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple Majority
TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 4. ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL LOCAL AID RECEIVED

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a portion of additional local aid received from the state, as follows:
$111,000 to the FY 2005 School Operating Budget
$45,000 to fund the FY 2006 Interim Revaluation and the FY 2007 State Certified Revaluation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman King moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the state pursuant to a supplemental budget bill for FY2004 the sum of $111,000 to be transferred to the FY 05 School Operating Budget (Line Item 01-200-02-5715) and the sum

ARTICLE 3. FUNDING OF CONTRACT FOR LOCAL 2790 I.A.F.F (FIREFIGHTERS)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money needed to fund the incremental cost items contained in any collective bargaining agreement between the Town and Local 2790 I.A.F.F. if such agreement is negotiat and mutually ratified prior to Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectm

Selectman Marsan moved that the Town vote to approve the funding of the incremental cost items contained in a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Town and the Local 2790 I.A.F.F. (Firefighters' Union), such agreement to be effective July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2007, with costs for Fiscal Year 2005 being funded in the Fire Department's Fiscal Year 2005 operating budget.

EXPLANATION: The Fire Union and the Board of Selectmen have agreed to a one-year contract for fiscal 2004 that calls for an extension of the prior contract with no salary increases In addition, a three year contract has been agreed to for fiscal year 2005 through 2007 which provides for a total effective increase of 10.15% over the 4 year period. The full impact of the increases will not be felt until fiscal year 2008. The contract also achieves a reduction in the Town's contribution to employees' health care, with some changes going into effect January 1 2006, others going into effect on July 1, 2006, and still others going into effect only upon acceptance of the changes by all town unions. Implementation of the July 1, 2006 changes are the Union's option – they can either take a 2% wage increase and implement specified changes in health insurance contributions, or they can wait for other groups to settle in which event the 2% wage increase will be delayed until those insurance changes are in fact implemented. We also achieved significant changes in the use of compensatory time, gained additional controls over the use of sick time, and limited the number of personnel that can take leave at the same time, all having a corresponding favorable impact on the overtime budget.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple Majority

TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 4. ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL LOCAL AID RECEIVED

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a portion of additional local aid received from the state, as follows:
$111,000 to the FY 2005 School Operating Budget
$45,000 to fund the FY 2006 Interim Revaluation and the FY 2007 State Certified Revaluatio or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectm

Selectman King moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the state pursuant to a supplemental budget bill for FY2004 the sum of $111,00 to be transferred to the FY 05 School Operating Budget (Line Item 01-200-02-5715) and the s

of $45,000 to be utilized to fund the FY 2006 Interim Revaluation and the FY 2007 State Certified Revaluation.

EXPLANATION: In September, we received notice of the availability of $222,405 in additional local aid. The budget subcommittee, comprised of representation from the Board of Selectmen, School Committee and Finance Committee, agreed that these funds should be utilized equally by the town and school sides of the government. This article effectuates that decision, with the balance of the town's portion being proposed for appropriation to the Stabilization Fund under Article 6.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple Majority
TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 5. ADDITIONAL DEBT EXCLUSION AUTHORIZATION FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of $13,525,935, in addition to the $67,900,000 previously appropriated, for the construction of additions to and remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the Easton Junior High School and the Oliver Ames High School, including the cost of architectural services for plans and specifications and other related preliminary expenses, including project manager services relating thereto, and original equipment and furnishings and related site improvements; and to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; and to determine whether this borrowing should be contingent upon the town voting to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by G.L. c.59 §21C (Proposition 2 ½) the amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Municipal Building Committee and School Planning Committee

Selectman Less moved that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of $13,525,935, in addition to the $67,900,000 previously appropriated, for the construction of additions to and remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the Easton Junior High School and the Oliver Ames High School, including the cost of architectural services for plans and specifications and other related preliminary expenses, including project manager services relating thereto, and original equipment and furnishings and related site improvements; and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow $13,525,935 under G.L. c.44 or G.L. c.70B or any other enabling authority, provided that the amount of the authorized borrowing for the projects shall be reduced by the amount of any school facilities grants received for the projects from the Massachusetts School Building Authority prior to the issuance of bonds or notes under this vote; and provided further, that this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by G.L. c.59, §21C (Proposition 2 ½) the amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote; and further to authorize the Town, if recommended by the Municipal Building Committee, to enter into a contract with a

construction manager at risk for construction of the Easton Middle School in accordance with MGL Chapter 149A and to further authorize the Municipal Building Committee to establish procedures to procure and manage construction management at risk services for construction of the Easton Middle School in accordance with MGL Chapter 149A, provided that the Town receives a Notice to Proceed to use the construction management at risk delivery method for the Easton Middle School from the Inspector General of the Commonwealth, as required by MGL Chapter 149A.

EXPLANATION: This is the additional authorization needed to fully fund the school construction projects. A presentation has been prepared which we would like to present to help explain the need for and impact of this proposal.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Two-thirds
TOWN MEETING ACTION: Passed. Clearly 2/3 vote declared by Moderator Dailey.

Motion to reconsider Article 5: NOT A VOTE.

ARTICLE 6: TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO THE STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer of available funds, a sum of money to be placed in the Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto. Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of $855,444 to be placed into the Stabilization Fund and that, to meet this appropriation, $450,000 shall be raised by taxation, $339,039 shall be transferred from free cash and $66,405 shall be transferred from available funds received from the state pursuant to a supplemental budget bill for FY2004.

EXPLANATION: We utilized $339,039 from the Stabilization Fund at the last Annual Town Meeting to balance the current year's operating budget, and made a commitment to Moody's bond rating service that we would replenish this amount at our earliest opportunity. This article fulfills that commitment. In addition, we propose to appropriate $450,000 from taxation (excess levy capacity) and $66,405 from one-time local aid for a total transfer of $855,444 to Stabilization. The Town Administrator would like to make a brief presentation regarding the sources of these funds and the resulting impact on the Free Cash and Stabilization balances.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Two-thirds
TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 7. AUTHORIZATION TO ABATE CERTAIN UNPAID PROPERTY TAX BILLS

To see if the Town of Easton will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60 Section 2 as amended through Chapter 281 of the acts of 1990, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Collector/Treasurer

Selectman Haederle moved that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60 Section 2 as amended through Chapter 281 of the Acts of 1990.

EXPLANATION: Acceptance of the provisions of this law will allow the tax collector to request that the assessors issue abatements if the tax due is less than $10. The total that would be abated at this time, if this article is approved, is approximately $71.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple Majority

TOWN MEETING ACTION: VOTED.

ARTICLE 8. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION TO DEBT BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $347,077.93, said sum to be deposited in account number 01-700-04-5935 for the payment of the short term debt for the Oliver Ames High School project, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Collector/Treasurer

Selectman Marsan moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $347,077.93, said sum to be deposited in account number 01-700-04-5935 for the payment of the short term debt for the Oliver Ames High School project.

EXPLANATION: This is the net amount of exempt debt interest that is needed to pay the short term notes that are due in June 2005.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple Majority

TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 9. TRANSFER OF PARCELS TO CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the following parcels to the Conservation Commission for all purposes included in General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C, as it now reads or may hereafter be amended, the said Board of Selectmen having voted that said parcels of land are no longer needed for other municipal

purposes, pursuant to the authority contained in Section 15A, Chapter 40 of the General laws, as listed below:

Parcel No.	Map/Lot	Location	Lot Size	Tax Taking	Book/Page
1	18R-110	808R Foundry St.	2.00 ac.	05-06-1992	5077-289
2	18R-116	810R Foundry St.	3.00 ac.	05-06-1992	5077-290
3	18R-123	820R Foundry St.	1.20 ac.	01-07-1999	8066-157
4	18R-108	804R Foundry St.	1.00 ac.	02-02-1990	4357-345
5	18R-115	810R Foundry St.	2.00 ac.	05-06-1992	5077-344
6	18R-109	808R Foundry St.	2.00 ac.	05-06-1992	5077-341
7	18R-112	810R Foundry St.	2.00 ac.	05-06-1992	5077-342
8	18R-113	810R Foundry St.	2.00 ac.	05-06-1992	5077-342
9	18R-30	736R Foundry St.	4.00 ac.	05-02-1994	6007-169
10	18R-119	15R Woodland Dr.	2.50 ac.	05-06-1992	5078-9
11	19R-36	23R Olde Farm Rd.	1.76 ac.	02-02-1990	4357-268
12	18R-111	808R Foundry St.	2.00 ac.	01-07-1999	8066-163
13	18R-122	816R Foundry St.	7.00 ac.	01-07-1999	8066-159

or take any relative action thereto.

Submitted by the Conservation Commission

Selectman King moved that the Town vote to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the following parcels to the Conservation Commission, as printed in your warrant.

EXPLANATION: These parcels came into town ownership after being offered at auction as land of low value. They are all in the vicinity of Wheaton Farm, and so are highly desirable to the Conservation Commission.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Two-thirds
TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 10. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR VETERANS' DEPARTMENT BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to supplement the existing Veterans' Department budget for the Fiscal Year 2005, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Veterans' Director

Selectman Less moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of $45,000, said sum to be transferred to the FY 05 Veterans' Department budget line item 01-551-05-5770 to be used for additional Veterans' Benefits.

EXPLANATION: 13 additional veterans and spouses are now being provided services, beyond those for which we budgeted. 75% of this appropriation, or approximately $33,750, will be reimbursed by the state.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple Majority
TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 11. APPROPRIATION OF "CHAPTER 90" FUNDS
To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the state pursuant to Chapter 291 of the Acts of 2004 the sum of $397,336.00 for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of said funds, and to take any other action relative thereto. Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the state pursuant to Chapter 291 of the Acts of 2004 the sum of $397,336.00 for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of said funds.

EXPLANATION: This is an annual vote to appropriate the so-called Chapter 90 funds.

The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended
VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS: Simple Majority
TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 13. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.
The Special Town Meeting was dissolved at 8:27 p.m. Total Voters Present – 689.

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof one at each meeting house and post office and one at the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium and one at the Town Offices, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this 15th day of November the year Two Thousand and Four.

Colleen A. Corona, Chairman
John S. Haederle, Clerk
Gerard S. Marsan
Charles P. King
EASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton, Mass. November 19, 2004
By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

A true copy Attest:

Janet Andrus Linehan, Town Clerk of Easton

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Town of Easton
Special Town Election

Bristol, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in elections to vote at:

Precincts 1, 2 & 4 – Easton Jr. High School Gymnasium, Columbus Avenue
Precincts 3 & 6 – Southeastern Regional High School Cafeteria, 250 Foundry Street
Precinct 5 – Easton Baptist Church, 195 Bay Road

On **TUESDAY, THE ELEVENTH DAY OF JANUARY 2005**, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes for the following question:

Question 1
Shall the Town of Easton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay the principal and interest on the additional bonds to be issued pursuant to the vote of the Town passed under Article 5 of the warrant for the December 6, 2004 town meeting in order to finance the construction of additions to and remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the Easton Junior High School and the Oliver Ames High School, including the cost of architectural services for plans and specifications and other related preliminary expenses, including project manager services relating thereto, and original equipment and furnishings and related site improvements?

Yes _____ No _____

Herof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 29th day of November, 2004.

Colleen A. Corona
John S. Haederle
Charles P. King
Gerard S. Marsan
Colleen A. Less
Selectmen of Easton

A true copy. Attest:
Janet Andrus Linehan
Town Clerk

Bristol, ss. Easton, Mass. December 7, 2004
By Virtue Hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

INDEX

Ames Free Library, Report of 61
Ames Trust Fund 63
Animal Control Department, Report of 94
Animal Inspector, Report of 54
Appeals Board of, Report of 48
Assessors, Report of 7
Annual Audit 31
Borderland State Park Advisory Council, Report of 73
Bristol County Mosquito Control Project, Report of 71
Building Department, Report of 43
Building & Grounds, Report of 35
Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee, Report of 40
Cemetery Commission, Report of 59
Collector, Report of 22
Community Preservation Act Committee, Report of 68
Conservation Commission, Report of 51
Council on Aging, Report of 57
Cultural Council, Report of 74
Department of Public Works, Report of 32
Finance Committee, Report of 10
Fire and Rescue Department, Report of 86
Health, Board of, Report of 49
Historical Commission, Report of 55
Home Consortium, Report of 100
Human Resources Board, Report of 101
Housing Authority, Report of 98
Municipal Building Committee, Report of 67
Oakes Ames Memorial Hall, Report of 64
Old Colony Planning Council, Report of 66
Old Colony Planning Council, Area Agency on Aging 65
Permanent Landfill Committee 96
Planning and Zoning Board, Report of 45
Police Department, Report of 91
Registrars of Voters, Report of 80
School Committee, Report of 19
Selectmen, Board of, Report of 5
Self Help, Inc. 97
Southeastern Regional School District, Report of 21
Southeastern Regional Services Group, Report of 76
Superintendent of Schools, Report of 12
Town Accountant, Report of 29
Town Accountant Balance Sheet 30

AT YOUR SERVICE

Ames Free Library	508-238-2000
Animal Control Officer	508-230-3353
Assessors	508-230-0520
Board of Appeals	508-230-0590
Board of Health	508-230-0620
Board of Selectmen	508-230-0501
Building Department	508-230-0580
Collector	508-230-0610
Conservation Commission	508-230-0640
Council on Aging	508-230-0540
Department of Public Works	508-230-0800
Fire Department	508-230-3311
Food Pantry	508-230-0670
Housing Authority	508-238-4747
Planning Board	508-230-0630
Police Department	508-230-3322
Recreation Department	508-230-0650
Town Accountant	508-230-0560
Town Administrator	508-230-0510
Town Clerk	508-230-0530
Treasurer	508-230-0600
Veterans Services Department	508-230-0550
Water Department	508-230-0850
Superintendent of Schools	508-230-3202
Center School	508-230-3233
Easton Junior High School	508-230-3222
F.L. Olmsted School	508-230-3205
H.H. Richardson School	508-230-3227
Moreau Hall	508-230-3235
Oliver Ames High School	508-230-3210
Parkview School	508-230-3230

EASTON EMERGENCY
POLICE
FIRE
MUNICIPAL AMBULANCE

DIAL 911